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NEW YORK, DECEMBER 31, 1887.

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THE NEW PHONOGRAPH.

editors a small, very simple machine about which very few preliminary remarks were offered. Our visitor without any ceremony whatever turned the crank, and to the astonishment of all present the machine said: "Good morning. How do you do? How do you like the phonograph?" The machine thus spoke for itself, and made known the fact that it was the phonograph, an instrument about which much was said and written, although little was known.

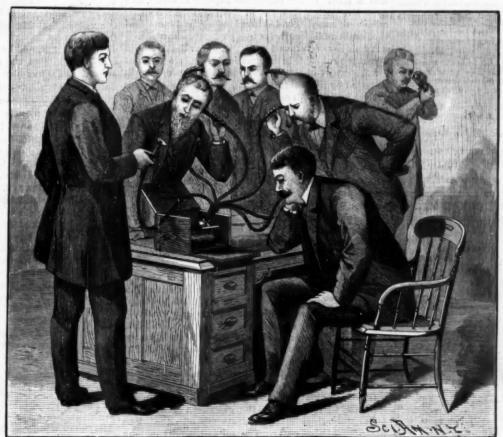
It was the latest invention of Edison, and the editors and employes of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN formed the first public audience to which it addressed itself. The young man was Mr. Thomas A. Edison, even then a well known and successful inventor. The invention was novel, original, and apparently destined to find immediate application to hundreds of uses. Every one wanted to hear the wonderful talking machine, and at once a modified form of the original phonograph was brought out and shown everywhere, amusing thousands upon thousands; but it did not by any means fulfill the requirements of the inventor. It was

scarcely more than a scientific curiosity or an amusing and thoroughly believed it was destined to become far the Scientific American, and placed before the tained the elements of a successful talking machine, that it would be a faithful stenographer, reproducing

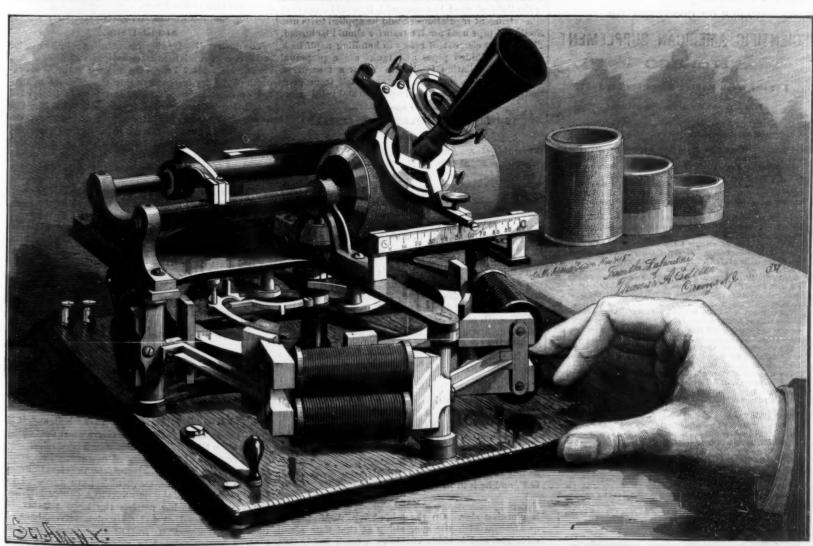
Ten years ago a young man came into the office of toy. Edison, however, recognized the fact that it con- more useful than curious or amusing. He contended

not only the words of the speaker, but the quality and inflections of his voice; and that letters instead of being written would be talked. He believed that the words of great statesmen and divines would be handed down to future generations; that the voices of the world's prima donnas would be stored and preserved, so that, long after their decease, their songs could be heard. These and many other things were expected of the phonograph. It was, however, doomed to a period of silence. It remained a toy and nothing more until a few months since, when it was made known to the publie that the ideal phonograph had been constructed; that it was unmistakably a good talker; and that the machine which most people believed to have reached its growth had after all been refined and improved until it was capable of faithfully reproducing every word, syllable, vowel, consonant, aspirate, and sounds of every kind.

During the dormancy of the phonograph its inventor secured both world-wide fame and a colossal fortune by means of his electric light and (Continued on p. 422.)



PHONOGRAPH WITH MULTIPLE EARPIECE.



THE NEW TALKING MACHINE, EDISON'S WONDERFUL PHONOGRAPH.

Scientific American.

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NEW YORK, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1887.

Contents.

(Illustrated articles are marked with an asterisk.)

Aluminum bronse for cannons and machinery	Lake freight
American outlook, the 416	acetone 494
Books and publications, new 418	Monkey, oyster opening 430 Naphtha explosions in Rochester
Business and personal, 435	and Jersey City 421
Camera with roll holder attach-	Navy, new, our
ed, Eastman*	Notes and queries
Cattie, prize, fine types of 420	Putent discussion, interesting, in
Chicago, the, trial of	the Senate 417 Phonograph, Edison's 415, 493
Country house at Pomfret,	Phonograph, first* 422
Conn., alterations 410	Phonograph in court* 422
Cow, short-horned* 421 Dutch belted Lady Aldine* 430	Phonograph with multiple car- piece*
Engineers, successful, good ma-	Photography, film 438
Film photography	Planets, position of, in January 416 Polishing powder for metal 422
Hay rakefund tedder, combined 404	Saved by the SCIENTIFIC AMERI-
House, remodeled*	Blik, artificial
How to invest nine dollars 416	Suggestion, a practical 418
Inventions, agricultural (25)	Talking machine, new*
Inventions, engineering 425 Inventions, index of 438	Tanning agent, new
Inventions, miscellaneous 436	
Labor and money	What the world owes
Laboration and Market State	a unit marviner, and other control 411

TABLE OF CONTENTS OF

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT No. 626

For the Week Ending December 31, 1887.

Price 10 cents. For sale by all newsdealers.

6. ARBORICULTURE.-The Snowdrop Tree.-The Halssia tetrapters utiful flowering tree.-1 illustration

II. CHEMISTRY.—On a New Method of Examining Butter.—By THOMAS T. P. BRUCE WARREN.—A simple analytical method of detecting butter adulterants.—The presence of foreign oils effects—the detection of the presence of the pre

The Comparative Delicary of Some Qualitative Tests.—By J. S. C. WELLES.—The delicacy of prominent chemical reactions examined and tabulated.—Valuable data for the qualitative analyst. 10001

III. ELECTRICITY.—Elisson's New Secondary Battery.—A distinctively new and original type of battery described and illustrated.
—1 illustration.
—The Manufacture of Electric Light Carbons.—The method in use by the Liepman Carbon Company, of London, for making pen-

cile for the electric light...

IV. ENGINEERING .- Asphalt and Concrete Foot Paves Mr. G. R. STRACHAN.—Experiments with asphalt walks in Eng-iand, giving valuable practical data of durability, cost, and other

The City of London and Southwark Subway.—A new under-ground railroad now is process of construction in London.—The excavating machinery and general plans of the structure.—I illus-The Brection of an Obeliak .- Mr. Arondeau's theory of the

ed by the Egyptians, is setting up their mon

The Ericcion of the Forth Bridge.—By Mr. Anders S. Big-GART.—A paper on the building of the trusses and cantilevers of the world's greatest bridge.—Full details of the riveting cages, etc.-6 illustrations.

VI. MISCELLANEOUS.—An Earthquake Railway Station.—The San Mateo station on the Oroya railway as wrecked by an earthquake

" and the Westminster Clock.—The details of what is elleved to be the most powerful clock in existence; its wonder-ni accuracy; the dimensions of its various parts.—3 illustrations 9996 Robertte, the New Explosive.—Recent trials of the new explosive agent as conducted in England; its uses and power ...

VIL TECHNOLOGY,--Wool Hat Making.-A full account of the manufacture offwoolen hats: the machinery and manipulation employed.—7 illustrations..... ployed.-? illustrations.....

NAPHTHA EXPLOSIONS IN ROCHESTER AND JERSEY in conjunction with Uranus, being 1° 10' north. Mars CITY.

A very serious explosion, due to an escape of naphtha, took place in Rochester, N. Y., on December 21. The Municipal Gas Light Company of that city uses one of the modern gas making processes, in which naphtha is employed for enriching the gas. The gas works receive large quantities of naphtha from the Vacuum Oil Works, and the two establishments are connected by a pipe line, part of which is placed in the bed of the canal. Fourteen thousand gallons of the inflammable fluid had been pumped into the line to be carried by it to the works. One or more leaks existed in the pipe line, and, in consequence, a quantity of the naphtha escaped and found its way into the sewers. At 3:25 P. M. it caught fire and exploded near John H. Poole's mill. The roof was blown off the mill and the street was torn up at intervals for a distance of half a mile. Other explosions rapidly followed, and soon Mr. Poole's mill was in flames. Three flouring mills were completely destroyed before the firemen had the flames under control at half past eleven at night.

A leak has been found in the pipes near the Atkinson Street sewer. This is thought insufficient to account for the extent of the disaster, and the whole line will be tested by hydrostatic pressure. The loss of life is Saturn are evening stars. not yet known with certainty, but several people have probably perished. The sewers are badly damaged in places, and windows were broken everywhere.

Immediately following the news of this occurrence comes the tidings of another similar accident, though, fortunately, of far less extent. In the office of the Jersey City Gas Light Company, in Jersey City, N. J., a naphtha leak existed in the cellar. The heat of the steam pipes, it is supposed, vaporized the fluid, and about noontime on December 22 two explosions followed each other in quick succession, the second being the worse. The front of the building was blown out, but the occupants escaped with more or less serious injuries. One of them is not yet pronounced out of danger.

These two accidents emphasize the need of extreme care in dealing with naphtha. It is more dangerous than gas, because when a leak occurs it takes far longer for the last traces to disappear. Its comparatively stable nature makes it a fearful adjunct to a conflagration, as it burns and when mixed with air explodes, The first explosion only disposes of a part of the danger; some will almost always be left to prolong the trouble. Water acts ineffectually in extinguishing it, as it floats and burns upon the surface.

In this city vast quantities are used, probably over a thousand barrels a day in the gas works alone. But, fortunately, these establishments are all situated on the edge of the water. The oil is brought in tank barges to the dock and then pumped through a short line into tanks, whence it is taken to the works. Yet, in the light of what has occurred, it would seem that more stringent regulations should be applied to its use. No line of pipe used for its transfer should be buried. The greatest element of safety in handling naphtha is exposure. Hidden pipes and tanks are a perpetual menace. Ventilation is also an important security. Everything connected with its storage and transportation should be open both to inspection and ventilation.

POSITION OF THE PLANETS IN JANUARY.

is morning star. An interesting event in her course occurs on the 2d, at 11 h. A. M. She is then in conjunction with Jupiter, the planets being only 1° 51' apart, Venus being that distance farther north. The planets rise on the morning of the conjunction about three hours before the sun. Venus rises on the 1st at 3 h. 54 m. A. M. On the 3ist she rises at 4 h. 47 m. A. M. Her diameter on the 1st is 188', and she is in the constellation Libra.

JUPITER

is morning star. He signalizes his progress in the sky during the month by his meeting with Venus on the 2d. He makes also a close conjunction with Beta only 8' south of the star. At the close of the month he rises four hours and a half before the sun. Jupiter rises on the 1st at 4 h. 4 m. A. M. On the 31st he rises at 2 h. 30 m. A. M. His diameter on the 1st is 31', and he is in the constellation Libra.

SATURN

is morning star until the 28d, and then evening star. On the 23d, at 9 h. A. M., he is in opposition with the sun. He is then at his nearest point to the earth, and is visible under the most favorable conditions, rising at sunset and continuing above the horizon all night. Saturn rises on the 1st at 6 h. 26 m. P. M. On the 31st he sets at 6 h. 40 m. A. M. His diameter on the 1st is 19 2', and he is in the constellation Cancer.

MARS

is morning star. On the 5th, at 7 h. A. M., he is in northwest of Spica. On the 9th, at 2 h. P. M., Mars is scale drawings of plans in detail.

rises on the 1st at 0 h. 15 m. A. M. He rises on the 81st at 11 h. 13 m. P. M. His diameter on the 1st is 7.4', and he is in the constellation Virgo.

is morning star until the 18th, and then evening star. He is in superior conjunction with the sun on the 18th, at 3 h. P. M., passing beyond the sun, and changing from his western to his eastern side. Mercury rises on the 1st at 6 h. 53 m. A. M. On the 31st he sets at 5 h. 48 m. P. M. His diameter on the 1st is 4.8', and he is in the constellation Sagittarius.

URANUS

is morning star. On the 7th, at 7 h. P. M., he is in quadrature with the sun. Uranus rises on the 1st at 0 h. 37 m. A. M. On the 31st he rises at 10 h. 35 m. P. M. His diameter is 3.6', and he is in the constellation NEPTUNE

is evening star. He sets on the 1st at 4 h. 4 m. A. M. On the 31st he sets at 2 h. 4 m. A. M. His diameter on the 1st is 2.6', and he is in the constellation Taurus.

At the close of the month, Mars, Uranus, Jupiter, and Venus are morning stars. Neptune, Mercury, and

Saved by the Scientific American.

Mr. J. J. Stranahan is the editor of the Exponent, a bright paper published at Chagrin Falls, Ohio. In a recent issue of his journal he gives the following:

"Those wishing to be well up in scientific and mechanical matters cannot afford to be without the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. It has been a constant visitor at our sanctum for fourteen years, and the other half of our family says that it is nip and tuck between the Bible and the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN so far as we are concerned. We, however, have a double interest in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, for, but for it, a new man would be behind the editorial quill of the Exponent. When we came near crossing the dark river, when taken by cramps while swimming across Mark Neice's pond in Newbury last summer, the first thought that entered our mind in that awful moment was an article which we had read about two weeks before in the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, on how good swimmers are drowned by becoming frightened, when by coolness and deliberation they could save their lives. Although ten rods from shore, in twenty or thirty feet of water, with severe cramps in neck and thigh, we swam to shore, and spoiled a nice funeral and cheated some other fellow out of a seat in the sixty-eighth general assembly. And there are doubtless those who wish that the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN was in Hades before that article was published."

Mr. Stranahan further states that the facts above given are true to the letter.

Artificial Silk.

The author dissolves 3 grms, of nitro-cellulose in 100 to 150 c. c. of a mixture of equal parts of alcohol and ether. He adds 2.5 c. c. of a filtered solution at onetenth of the dry ferrous chloride of commerce in alcohol, or of stannous chloride, and further 15 c. c. of a solution of tannic acid in alcohol. The whole is filtered in a closed apparatus to prevent loss by evaporation. The liquid is placed in a vertical reservoir, having at its bottom a blowpipe nozzle of glass or platinum. This pipe forms an acute cone with an orifice of from 0.10 to 0.20 mm., the thickness of the margin not exceeding 0.1 mm. This aperture opens into a vessel of water acidulated with one-half per cent of mono-hydrated nitric acid. The level in the reservoir being some centimeters higher than in the vessel of water, the outflow proceeds easily. The fluid thread hardens at once in the acidulated water, and may be drawn out by a uniform movement. The thread thus formed must be dried rapidly by traversing a current of dry (not hot) air, and may be wound up as soon as dry. It is gray or black, but a number of soluble coloring matters may be introduced into the ethereal solu-Scorpii on the 24th, at 6 h. P. M., being at that time tion, thus obtaining threads of all colors.—M. De Chardonnet.

How to Invest Nine Dollars,

By remitting \$9 for the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, SCI-ENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT, and the ARCHITECT AND BUILDERS EDITION of the SCIENTIFIC AMERI-CAN for 1888, the subscriber will surely have the latest and best scientific, engineering, mechanical, architectural, and building information to be had, and it is only in these three publications that a great deal of the information they will contain can be had at all.

The number of engravings of new inventions, engineering works, scientific experiments, the elevation and plans of new buildings, etc., which have appeared in the three editions of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN during the year just closing reaches the large number of is morning star. On the 5th, at 7 h. A. M., he is in twenty-eight hundred and forty-nine. Every issue of quadrature with the sun, rising at that time about the ARCHITECT AND BUILDER contains views of midnight, and is easily visible as a small ruddy star, modern houses printed in colors, accompanied with

AN INTERESTING PATENT DISCUSSION IN THE SENATE

For several years past the Department of Agriculture has been conducting experiments with a view to promote and increase the production of sugar from cane and sorghum. The more recent of these experiments has resulted in important gains of sucrose by what is known as the diffusion process, which, in brief, consists in reducing the cane by cutters into thin slices, and soaking them in water. The solution is then boiled down in the usual manner.

In this way a larger yield of sucrose or saccharine matter is obtained than by the ordinary process of squeezing between rollers.

In the ordinary process of concentrating the sucrose, much trouble is occasioned by the acidity of the saccharine solution, which caused the inversion of the crystallizable sugar into glucose, resulting in great losses of sugar.

The Department of Agriculture undertook a series of special experiments, having in view the highly important object of discovering a practical mode of preventing the inversion and saving the sugar.

An appropriation of \$94,000 was made to carry on these experiments, at Fort Scott, Kansas, under the general direction of Professor Wiley, a distinguished chemist. On July 19, 1886, the Hon. Norman J. Coleman, Commissioner of Agriculture, appointed Professor Magnus Swenson to be superintendent, to conduct the experiments, under the direction of the chemist.

Professor Swenson set to work most energetically, and it was not long before he hit upon the happy idea of preventing the invertive action of the organic acids in the cane chips upon the sugar during the process of extraction by adding lime to the saccharine or diffu-

The remedy proved at once successful, and the important fact was immediately communicated to the Department of Agriculture by Professor Wiley, who gave ample and deserved credit to Professor Swenson for the suggestion and realization of the experiment. This was in December, 1886

Very soon after making this new and valuable discovery, namely, on December 29, 1886, Professor Swenson applied for a patent, which, after long lingering in the Patent Office, was finally granted on October 11, 1887, number 371,528.

The discovery of Prof. Swenson appears to be rapidly gaining in importance. It seems likely to prove to be the key to the success of the sorghum sugar industry, and unless his patent can in some way be suppressed, he is likely to be handsomely rewarded for his invention. This is looked upon with horror by many people, who may be required temporarily to pay perhaps the one thousandth part of a cent per pound of sugar for the use of a discovery that may add untold millions of wealth to our agricultural resources

Complaint has already been made to the Senate, and there seems to be a strong disposition in that body to throttle the patent before it has time to swell into a the government and at its expense? The invention is of gigantic monopoly, like the barb fence, the driven well, the telephone or the telegraph, or the Standard Oil Company.

On the 15th of December last, Senator P. B. Plumb, of Kansas, submitted a resolution which was passed after being modified as follows:

"Resolved, That the Attorney-General be requested to investigate the issuance of letters patent No. 371,528 to Magnus Swenson, of date October 11, 1887, and if in his judgment the same is invalid upon any ground, or was procured by reason of information obtained from experiments made by the government, and if in his judgment a suit can be maintained in the name of the United States, that he commence suit promptly to have the same canceled or the use of the same by said Swenson or any one claiming under him perpetually enjoined."

Prior to passing the resolution a long discussion took place in regard to the jurisdiction of the Senate, the power of the Attorney-General, etc., in which a number of Senators'took part; but only a few members made remarks touching the merits of the invention or the rights of inventors who are in governmental employ,

The only man in the Senate who seems to have had the courage to say a word in behalf of the inventor was the Hon. Wilkinson Call, of Florida.

During the progress of the debate, Mr. Plumb said: "The subject matter of this resolution and the issuance of a patent to Mr. Swenson is of very great importance to the people of this country, because if Mr. Swenson's claim is substantiated it may prove that he has a very important control over the manufacture of sugar from sorghum, the value of which has been demonstrated by experiments made by the government, and the opportunity for the obtaining of this patent having been presented to Mr. Swenson by reason of his employment by the government. I should be very glad, therefore, to have the resolution passed, in order that the Attorney-General may be admonished to do whatever he may find legally within his power in the direction of setting aside the patent at an early day.

"If Swenson has a valid patent, he has it upon a mere technicality. Properly speaking, morally speaking, he has no right to a patent. He was in the employ of the general government; every step of the experiment which resulted in the development of this process was taken by reason of the expenditure of the public money, and except for the expenditure of public money this process could not have been developed, at least at the time that it was.

The Hon. J. B. Beck, of Kentucky, said: "From very long experience and observation here, I have found that whenever we constituted a board, whether it was to examine into guns, or ships, or anything that the government wanted, or even to a canceling stamp for the Post Office Department, and when we furnished them the money and all the facilities for making the investigation, and without our money and without the facilities furnished by us they would have had no idea of the suggested matters in the nature of improvements that they afterward patent; and thus we are constantly handicapped by men who have obtained all the information that enabled them to take out their patents through the means and instrumentalities that we have furnished, and through the money we have put into their hands for the purpose of doing it. If there is any way of breaking that up, I want to break it up.

"If I were to go over the history of the last twenty or thirty years of inventions that have been claimed by men who have been the trusted officers of the government to make improvements for the use of the government, in guns and in the machinery that we have needed, it would be found that a very large majority of the patents have been taken out by men who were in our employ, and who obtained the information to take them out by the means furnished by the government, and the information elicited under the investigations made with the money of the government. It can do no harm for us at least to get the opinion of the Attorney-General as to what our rights now are, so that we may guard against these abuses by law, if need be, in the future."

Mr. Call said: "I think there is a great deal of doubt whether the resolution ought to pass. I should be very willing to vote for a general law authorizing the Attorney-General to bring suits in all cases where there is reasonable cause to believe a patent invalid; but to declare that he shall bring suit to invalidate this patent ecause the inventor discovered the invention while in the service of the United States, or on the broader ground contained in the amendment, on account that it was in the course of experiments made by the United States, seems to me utterly illogical. Neither fact affords any ground whatever for declaring the patent invalid. Shall we limit the human mind in discoveries to facts which have not been elicited by government investigation? Why is not an invention as meritorious. why are not the operations of the intellect in discovering some great mechanical principle of benefit to mankind because the facts on which the intellect operated were discovered in the course of experiments made by as much service, and has as much right, and is as commendable, and ought to be as much encouraged, if he discovers some great benefaction from facts elicited by the government as from any other source. The government has no claim on his thought, on the operations of his intellect, and I think the ground of this resolution therefore is entirely erroneous.

"This resolution declares, so far as the Senate has power to do so, that a man in the employment of the government who makes a new discovery of some law of nature, of some process heretofore unknown, shall not have the advantage of it, simply because he is in the employ of the government, and that all his intellectual faculties belong to it outside of the special purpose for which he is employed. I shall vote against it. A poor man's talent is all that he has, and the government does not need to take that away from him.

Mr. George.-" Suppose this discovery is made in the process of experiments carried on by an employe of government with the government's money, then what?"

Mr. Call.-"It does not make the slightest difference. The government does not buy the man's brain for anything but the special purpose for which it employs him, namely, for his use of the already ascertained laws of mechanical operation which may be used. It does not contract with him that whatever new discoveries may be made in the vast field of nature shall be compensated for by his employment to use those already known and discovered. There is no such contract, and there ought to be none. If a man discovers some great and new principle, some great benefaction to mankind, shall it be said because it was done with the government's money that that was contemplated in the contract? Certainly the proposition denies itself; the proposition that when a man contracts with the government to render a specific service he also contracts for all new discoveries in the unknown realm of nature which may be made by him.

"The government is a poor paymaster at the best, inventors all benefit from their inventions. On the contrary, the power of monopoly, the power of money, of a man's genius before he has made an invention.

"The Senator from Kentucky said that he had known for many years men in the employ of the government using the government's money in its experiments, and then obtaining a patent for some new invention that had been discovered in the course of their employment. If any such patent has ever been issued, it has been by the fraud of the Interior Department or their ignorance. The law has always been to the contrary. The law has always been that a discovery once used anywhere is a dedication to the public. The invention must be new and unused, and not put in service, or a patent cannot be obtained for it."

Hon. Henry M. Teller, of Colorado, said: "I have no objection to the resolution if the facts are as I understand them in this case, and if the law is, as it seems to me it ought to be, that the man who, while engaged in studying a single question for the government under its pay, discovers something greatly advantageous to the people of the United States while so employed, ought not to be allowed (although it is possible the law may permit it now) to obtain a patent for that discovery. He ought not, in equity and right, to be allowed a patent, and thus take the discovery away from the people and make it useful only to himself."

Hon. John Sherman, of Ohio, said: "This invention, made by an employe of the government with the aid of large expenditures of the government, is said to be one of the most valuable and important inventions made of late years, especially in regard to an industry that at this time excites more interest among the people of the United States than any other industry, that is, the question how to utilize the sugar in the beet and in the cane-sorghum in the various forms. If this patent is allowed to stand in the way of the active experiments that are being made in that important'process, it will prevent the planting of beets: it will prevent the growth of sorghum; it will prevent further inquiry into the best means of making sugar from the various agricultural products which have been proposed; it will stop the experiments made by the government of the United States; and it is therefore not a slight thing. It is a matter of vital importance.

'I think we have the right, as the Senate of the United States, to direct the attention of the Attorney-General to this matter: to inquire in the first place whether he has the power to test the validity of this patent without a law of Congress; and in the second place to give us such information upon the subject as will enable us to prepare a bill that will enable the government of the United States in honor to withdraw its patent in case it has been illegally or fraudulently obtained."

Labor and Money.

The doctrine of the power of law to create monetary value degrades labor as its first effect, by fixing in the minds of the people the notion that labor is not the only source, perhaps not even the greatest source, of monetary value. It concedes to a rival power the domination of labor, by endowing that power with plenary potentiality to regulate the value and price of labor and all it produces. Hence labor would lower itself to a secondary rank in the production of values, whereas it is, in a scientific view, the primary and sole creator of value. Labor must either be master or slave. It must acknowledge no equal, no rival, no usurping, interloping competitor in the creation of the values of the world. If it takes any other than the foremost position among its rivals, its cause is hopeless. It will be led by the nose, like an ox or an ass, it will work in the yoke its rivals contrive for it, and, as has been the case in all past history, it will be regarded by the "money power" in the light of hewers of wood and drawers of water. -Social Science Review.

Lake Freight.

A marvelous record in lake marine annals was completed December 9 by the big propellers Jewett and Tioga, belonging to the Union Steamboat Company, when both came into port together, with flags flying and whistles blowing. They first left Buffalo together on the morning of April 26. Each had completed 25 round trips and sailed 46,000 miles, the Tioga having delivered 85,000 tons and the Jewett 75,000 tons of freight during the season. During the whole time neither has had to lie to for a single day for repairs.

The End of Another Year.

During the year now closing, our mail subscribers have received gratis an extra number of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. The present volume closes with 27 numbers, thus giving the subscriber, at considerable cost to the publishers, 58 numbers for the year 1887, in place of We hope our mail subscribers will recognize our 52. liberality in presenting them with the extra number, and and invention will not be promoted by denying the favor us with a renewal of their subscription promptly. And if any one can influence a friend to join him, who is not acquainted with the value of our publications, will be promoted by the principle of securing the sale it will be a good thing for both his friend and the publishers.

THE SELF-REGISTERING BAROMETER.

The accompanying illustration represents a self-registering barometer that has recently been put into the office of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN. Similar instruments are now in use in the Harvard Observatory, the Lick Observatory, Wellesley College, Central Park Observatory, New York City, and the office of city engineer at Providence, and other places. This instrument is of a very high grade, and gives a weekly record of the barometric changes.

Without any attention, it registers on a paper supported by a flat tablet the changes in pressure. To make the readings clear, the proportions are so adjusted as to magnify the variations three times. On the chart each tenth as marked really measures three-tenths of an inch in height. This provides also for any minor inaccuracies due to varying thickness of the line marked on the paper by the indicator.

In general principle it operates by weighing the mercury in a cylindrical glass tube, which forms the cis-This tube is suspended from the frame of the apparatus by two long steel springs. When the column rises, mercury enters the tube from the cistern. The latter is reduced in weight and also rises. When the column falls, more mercury enters the cistern, which, under the increased weight, stretches the springs and descends. Thus it will be seen that said usurious -rates of interest. It is to be feared that States are still par excellence the great industrial the cistern moves up and down in the same direction as the actual column.

The ratio of its motion to the true variation is adjustable by varying the strength of the springs. In some instruments a ratio of 2:1 is provided, but the larger rate seems the preferable. Thus, on the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN instrument the hundredths divisions are so large that they can readily be fractioned.

For marker, a glass tube charged with red ink is adopted. This is carried in a horizontal position, attached rigidly to the cistern, and moving up and down with it. At one end it is drawn down to a small orifice. The ink forms a species of film between it and the paper, and a strong red line is traced on the chart.

Two features of interest characterize the chart and its way of application. It covers the period of seven days. Thus the paper has to be replaced only once a week. This may seem a minor point, but it is far from being such, as it saves much trouble and the necessity for daily attendance at a specific hour. The other feature is the position of the chart. When receiving the curve of heights, the paper is stretched over a flat tablet that moves horizontally. Thus arranged, all the readings for the week, or for whatever portion may have elapsed, are visible. This arrangement is a great improvement over the cylinder or disk systems, neither of which is easily read for any period back, when held by the registering

The adjustment for temperature is arranged by a system of compensation. As the temperature rises and the mercury decreases in specific gravity, normally the movements of the cistern would be affected. The changes in elasticity of the springs, under alterations in temperature, are mainly relied on to correct this. The expansion and contraction of the frame is

is that the apparatus is self-correcting for changes of temperature.

The frame is of heavy east iron, the working parts are of brass, and generally nickel plated. The tablet is moved by a cord which is carried once around a drum that is rotated by the clockwork. The tablet is suspended from two grooved wheels that move along a horizontal track.

This interesting instrument has now been at work for several weeks in the office of this paper, and has given a consecutive record of all changes, day and night, for that period. Owing to the use of ink, the curve is as well defined as if made by a drawing pen, and the old trouble incident to former types of recording instruments of endeavoring to follow a gray and obscure pencil mark is avoided.

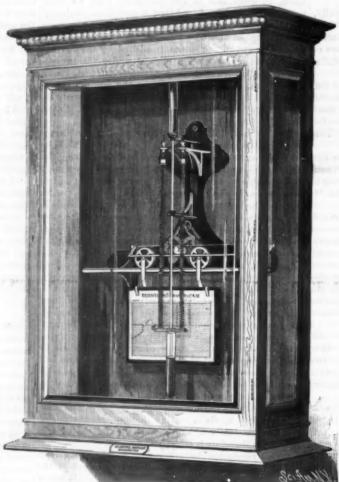
The instrument was constructed by the Draper Manufacturing Company, of 152 Front Street, this city. The same firm also make other registering meteorological instruments, rain gauges, anemometers, etc., following, as far as may be, the same line of construction. The accuracy attained in some of their instruments is very remarkable. In one of their registering barometers no error exceeding three one-thousandths of an inch has, it is said, been observed.

An impervious enamel for paper, wood, etc., is a solution of shellae in methylated spirit. A coating of this is applied, and then another coating laid at a high temperature and under great pressure.

Our English contemporary the Colliery Guardian takes an encouraging view of the prosperity for our railroad enterprises the next year.

The intelligence which has come to hand within the last day or two from the United States (says the editor) is of a more encouraging character. For some time past 1888 has presented itself in somber colors, so far as the American iron and steel trades are concerned; but we now learn that an impression is beginning to revail that the demand for rails next year in the United States will, after all, be better than it was expected to be a few weeks since. Should what we may term the amended anticipation be realized, the attendant consequences can but be favorable to the iron and steel rail trades of Great Britain and western Europe, since if the American iron trade presents a fairly steady tone next year we may reasonably assume that matters will also move on pretty well upon this side of the At-

We have all along contended that there is a material difference between the panic of 1873 and the depression of 1887. In 1878 a large number of "wildcat" American railroads were projected, and sought to maintain a precarious existence with the aid of capital raised in



THE SELF-REGISTERING BAROMETER.

also allowed for in the adjustment. The consequence in too many cases these projectors of the "wildcat" practicalities of their chosen work, they are found schemes had little or no serious intention of fulfilling the engagements into which they entered. The inevitable result was a very serious collapse of American railroad credit, affecting alike all American railroad property, good, bad, and indifferent. From this collapse lost can scarcely be said to have been recovered much before 1878.

> When we endeavor to analyze the American railroad situation of 1887, we find a very different state of affairs happily existing. It is true that with their usual impetuosity American railroad men have somewhat to make a good report on the same. overbuilt themselves in 1887, and that American railroad credit has been strained, to a certain extent, in consequence. But it must be borne in mind that American railroad companies have profited materially from the fall in the value of money which has taken the work of railroad establishment has also been renand rolling stock. Yet another distinction between the panic of 1878 and the depression of 1887 will be found in the fact that the new lines undertaken in the United States during the last three years have been of a more bona fide character than many of those projected in 1872 and 1873, while the capital required for the railroad works undertaken in 1885, 1886, and 1887 has been principally provided by the Americans themselves. A large extent of the new railroad mileage established in the United States since 1884 has also been reminder of the donor's generosity.

carried out by previously existing American railroad companies, possessing a more or less solid and substantial credit, and fairly well able in consequence to sustain for a time the consequences of a check similar to that which we have witnessed during the last few months. In other words, the American railroad situation of 1887 bears the impress of far more respectability than was observable in the panic of 1873. We must take account still further of the consideration that since 1873 the United States have materially advanced in wealth and population, so that there has been far more real justification for the new railroads undertaken in the West, Southwest, and Northwest than could possibly be found in the "wildcat" projections of

It is in such considerations as these that we may find some explanation of the better prospect which appears to be now happily opening for the American railroad interest and for American iron in 1888. Cheaper capital, less costly materiel, greatly enlarged population, general industrial progress, and much more accumulated wealth-these are the supports upon which the American railroad interest and the American iron trade can happily now rely. It is probably a fact that the Americans are becoming a more industrial people England and Europe at heavy-and we had almost than at any former period in their history. The United

> quarter of the world, since cotton growing is quite as much an agricultural pursuit as the raising of cereals or the grazing of live stock. But it is a happy characteristic of the natural resources of the great republic that they are surprisingly varied and comprehensive, and that they afford scope for the development of human industry in well nigh every form. This, it appears to us, is a point of material importance in connection with the future of the United States. A country which has only one industry must always be more or less in a precarious position, while a country with a multiplicity of industries is less exposed to climatic vagaries and commercial vicissitudes.

It is quite possible-indeed, it is extremely probable—that 1889 will witness a material contraction in American railroad construction. No nation in the world can go on building 10,000 or 12,000 miles of new line every year for an indefinite period; and, therefore, some check in American railroad establishment was inevitable. But, at the same time, it will be highly satisfactory if the shock which it was apprehended that the American iron trade would experience in 1888 in a severe form loses something of its intensity.

Good Material for Successful Engineers.

The Railway Review says: A number of our leading railway shops are taking in "engineering students," bright young men who come from the technical schools to learn the practical side of railway mechanics, and who enter as apprentices. They receive slightly more pay than the ordinary apprentices, but their wages are still merely nominal. The experience has been that when engineering students have been thus received, the benefit is mutual. These young men come into the shops fresh from their mathematics and their drawing tables, and while they absorb all that they can of the

to be very useful by their employing officers, because of their familiarity with mechanical theory and drawing. There are not a few master mechanics in the country who are invaluable in their places-first class men in every respect—but who, in early life, had not the recovery was so slow and painful that the ground the advantages of education which this younger generation of students has had, and they find many directions in which these educated young fellows are made useful. Especially useful are these students as a detail for special work of investigation. They are well equipped for such work, and they know how

A New Tanning Agent.

By digesting coal dust with caustic soda at a boil and neutralizing this liquor with hydrochloric acid, the author obtains a new tanning agent, which he names place throughout the United States since 1873, while pyrofuscine. He considers that the new process is more complicated than the usual tanning processes, but that dered easier by the great decline in the price of rails it is 50 per cent cheaper than the bark process and 20 to 30 per cent cheaper than the alum process.-P. F. Reisch, in Dingler's Ployt. Journal.

A Practical Suggestion.

We know of no better way in which an employer of intelligent men can invest \$3 than by subscribing for the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN for a trusty superintendent, foreman, or other employe whose services for faithfulness he wishes to recognize. It would be a weekly



ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS TO A COUNTRY HOUSE AT POMFRET, CONN.-HOWARD HOPPIN, ARCHITECT.

A REMODELED HOUSE.

It frequently happens in the experience of the architect that he is called upon to enlarge or remodel a dwelling. Sometimes it is only required to add one or more rooms, while in other cases it is sought to improve the appearance of the exterior. Such problems often severely tax his ingenuity, for it becomes difficult to considerably improve the appearance of a building while substantially maintaining its original outlines.

As illustrating what may be done in this direction,

by Architect Howard Hoppin in dealing with the residence of Mrs. R. M. Clark, at Pomfret, Conn. This house, before alteration, presented the appearance of a comfortable, plain, country dwelling, as represented in the view in the upper right hand corner of our plate. The imposing appearance of it as it now stands can be seen from the large perspective view.

The alterations, although apparently so extensive, were, in fact, few beyond the addition of towers, the stone lining to some of the walls, and the new piazza. Scarcely a feature of the original house has been removed. It has simply been added to, and this in such a manner as to throw but little weight upon the old work.

The March, 1897, number of the ARCHITECTS AND BUILD-ERS EDITION of the SCIEN-TIFIC AMERICAN, from which this engraving is taken, contains detail drawings and a \$7,000 to carry out.

What the World Owes,

The Amateur Mechanic thinks when a man has a conviction that the world owes him a living, the best thing he can do is to go to work and collect the debt, and there is no surer way than by work. It is the magic little more snap and "hang on" would have brought key to the most stubborn defenses. Steady, persistent, intelligent work has surmounted more difficulties than the brilliant sallies of genius or the temporary spurts of men without an object.

Many young men feel that they are unappreciated, we present to our readers a set of drawings, showing and that if some one would only come forward and too late for him to make the knowledge available.

the ingenious and clever method of treatment adopted give them an impetus—a chance—they would take the "You don't know how hard it is to start a new busi-

Want of pluck has killed many an enterprise that had all the elements of success in it. The projectors joined the great ranks of the "unappreciated" after a few good strokes and fell out of the race, when a them into smoother sailing.

There is no battle call more stirring than "Up, guards, and at them!" and that must be the motto of every young man everywhere—we say the young man, because if the old has not learned it, it is

ness," said a friend the other day, at the head of a large and well-appointed concern; to which we made no reply, though we might have given a few appropriate remarks on the subject from our own experience.

Those who fancy that success depends upon luck or good fortune, or anything short of energetic, persistent hard work, will be undeceived if they embark in trade, and expect to have business roll in on them.

Want of capital is a drawback, but want of work is like a countermine to a mine, destroying the best plans and intentions,

The faint heart says, "There is no chance; there are so many in business already; the field is occupied, etc. In proportion to demand the field is no more occupied to-day than it was forty years ago, and if men have good wares, sell them at a fair price, deal honestly by all,

complete specification of the work, which cost about world by storm! Doubtless there are many such who and perform what they promise, their future is cerlanguish for want of opportunity, but the incipient tain. The world owes every man a living, and will



A THIRTY-FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR COTTAGE.*

genius must not wait for something to turn up. He pay it if it is worked for. must turn things up himself, and keep turning.

When he is sick of it, and wants to stop and take will turn out right!

J. PERSOZ finds that wool, if previously saturated things easy, let him keep right on turning and all with a 10 per cent solution of glycerin, can bear a prolonged exposure to 180° to 140° without injury.

^{*}From the Abchitect and Builders Edition of the Scientific American of October, 1886, in which the ground and chambers plan are given. This or any other numbers of the Architects and Builders EDITION (36 ready for delivery) may be had by remitting 25 cents to the office of this paper.

Telephonic Communication at Sea

made a number of experiments in this direction with an the same general character by some American electricians were described in our issues of October 7 and comprising three or four windings. Mr. Edison also is

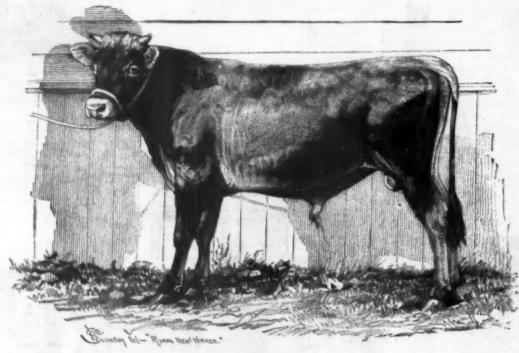
November 4. The follow ing description is given of the arrangement:

The source of sound consists of a large gong or flat bell supported against the side of the vessel below the water line. A straight tube leads from this gong to the "bridge" of the ship, and in its interior is a rod fitted with a handle at its upper end, by which the hammer of the gong can be worked, and the gong struck at will. The striking of the gong may, of course, be done in keeping with a code of signals, such as the Morse code used in ordinary telegraphy. In the center of the ong is fixed a modified Bell telephone with a large and sensitive diaphragm. The telephone is connected by means of wires running up the tube to a second telephone on the bridge, within reach of the observer there. This forms the receiving part of the apparatus. If we suppose

necessary for one to rap out her message by striking the gong and for the other to receive it on her tele phone. The sound waves from the transmitting gong traverse the intervening water and vibrate the diaphragm of the submerged telephone at a distance. These vibrations excite currents in the latter, which, in traversing the second or observing telephone, reproduce the original sounds of the gong. Small explosions of gun cotton under water have also been used by Mr. Boyer in place of the gong; and an ounce of gun cotton can in this way give a signal which is distinctly heard a mile off under water.

Such signals under the sea are independent of fogs or lighthouses and lightships being able to signal vessels extract the oyster with the finger and thumb, occasion- one year.

ever, it will be remembered that Prof. Blake uses a Mr. H. F. Boyer, of H.M.S. Malabar, has recently microphone in circuit with the deck telephone as a receiver. With this arrangement, Prof. Blake has been apparatus of his own invention. Previous attempts of able to transmit subaqueous signals from a locomotive bell through a mile and a half of the Wabash River, property of Hon. Erastus Corning, of Albany.



JERSEY BULL DIAVOLO.

two ships fitted with this combination, it is only reported to have signaled through a mile of the Holland. In color they are black, with a continuous Calcosahatchie River, in Florida, during the present white beit around their body, the white being pure His system has not been fully disclosed, but it appears to be similar to those described. It is to be hoped that this new development of telephony will be pushed as far as possible. - Electrician.

Oyster-Opening Monkey.

Mr. Alfred Carpenter, of the Marine Survey Office, Bombay, has observed Macacus monkeys on the island off South Burma opening oysters with a stone. They bring the stones from high water mark down to low water, selecting such stones as they can easily grasp. They effect the opening by striking the base of the upFINE TYPES OF PRIZE CATTLE.

The Jersey bull Diavolo, represented herewith, received the first prize in the yearling class at the New York State Fair in 1880, and was at that time the

The Dutch belted cow Lady Aldine, shown in our

engraving, is now owned by Mr. H. B. Richards, of Easton, Pa. She took the first prize in her class at the New Jersey State Fair, held at Waverly last September.

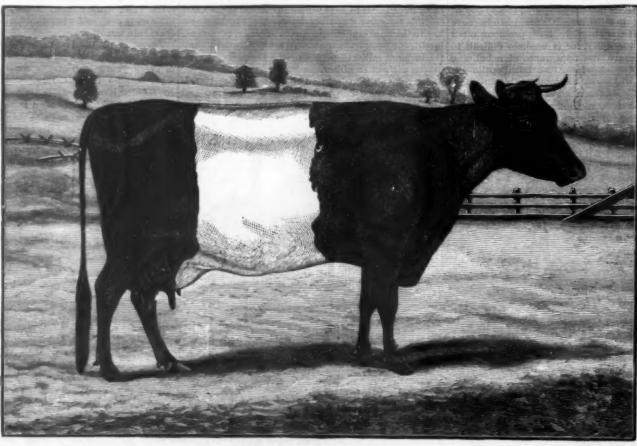
The Aldine family, of which our portrait is a good representation, have become famous as prize winners. The Dutch belted or blanket breed of cows are natives of Holland, and have not been brought to this country in large numbers. They antedate the seventeenth century, when the cattle interests in Holland were in the most thrifty condition, and this type and color were established by scientific breeding. The historian Motley well said: "These are the most wonderful cattle of the world."

In their native country they are owned and controlled by the nobility, and present a very novel feature in the landscape, grazing in the lowlands in

white, the black jet, making a beautiful and imposing contrast. Their form is usually very fine, and they are very productive as milkers.

The owner of Locust Grove farm, Michael Rosney manager, on Orange Mountain, N. J., has a small herd of the Dutch belted cattle. His stock is comprised of both the Aldine and Arnout breeds, five of which number received first and second premiums, according to their ages, at the State Fair where was awarded the first prize for Lady Aldine.

The Holstein cow Clothilde, owned by Smiths, Powell & Lamb, Syracuse, N. Y., has made herself stormy weather; and they hold out the possibility of per valve until it dislocates and breaks up. They then famous by making a milk record of 28,021 pounds in



DUTCH BELTED LADY ALDINE

their number to Lloyd's stations, if the system prove successful. Mr. Boyer's plan, which so far has given encouraging results, is somewhat similar to that of Prof. Lucien J. Blake, of the Rose Polytechnic Institute, United States, which was described in our issue of November 4. Instead of a submerged telephone, how- amalgam, the antimony is thrown out-iron, also.

at all times. Moreover, ships, in addition to signaling ally putting the mouth straight to the broken shell. each other, could also signal lightships, or announce The way they have chosen is the easiest to open the Show, where all the dairy breeds were shown, and the shell.

> AMALGAMS present many peculiarities. Thus iron. antimony, sodium, silver, and gold will dissolve in mercury; but if antimony amalgam be mixed with sodium

She was exhibited at the New York Dairy and Cattle number of Jerseys exhibited was largely in excess of the number of Holstein-Friesians, and she won the sweepstakes prize for making the most butter in twenty-four consecutive hours, and according to a statement made to us by her owners, she has since given 101 1b, 2 oz. of milk in a day, and made 28 lb, 214 oz. of

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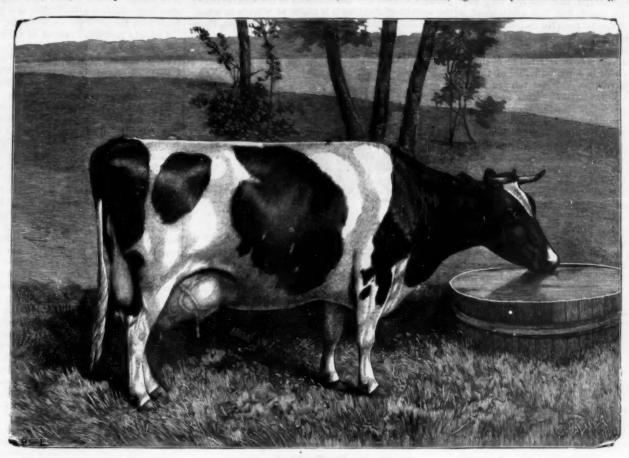
butter in a week, which record there is probably no ca, were finally dispersed by auction in 1873, when Tenth is, if from overweight a car breaks down in transit, cow likely to dispute.

ow likely to dispute.

Duchess of Geneva was bought by Mr. Berwick for the and a train hand is injured or killed by the accident, the other fine portrait is of a celebrated shorthorn

Earl of Beetive at \$35,000. She had bred in America the responsibility may fall upon the shipper, or the

cow, Tenth Duchess of Geneva, whose personal and the bulls Third Duke of Oneida, Sixth Duke of Oneida, agent who permitted the loading. One thing is certain,



CLOTHILDE.

cribes the origin of the family to a breed of cattle pos- for Lord Bective, at the same sale, for \$15,000. sessed for centuries by the family of the Duke of Northumberland, but the actual records commence in the last century, when an ancestress of this cow passed ham, who was one of the founders of the shorthorn as

ling's great sale, in 1810, when forty-seven animals of both sexes and all ages, from eleven years downward, made the then un precedented average of \$732.84, he gave \$929.64 for the two year old heifer Young Duchess, afterward called First Duchess, a daughter of Comet (sold on the same occasion for \$5,080), and grand-daughter of the cow he had first purchased. From that heifer in the female line direct sprang those Duchesses which have at different periods won the chief honors of the Royal Agrienltural Society of England, and for many years past have commanded the highest prices at public and private sales. Bates, while practicing to a considerable extent the system of in-and-in breeding, crossed his Duchesse at different times with other approved shorthorn families, notably with those of Mr. Colling's Red Rose and Princess, thus combining what he considered three of the oldest and best shorthorn families in the kingdom. In 1858, at the Tortworth sale (after the death of Earl Ducie), Sixty-sixth Duchess was bought by Messrs. Becar & Morris, of New York, for \$3,557.40.

Her descendants, having changed owners in Ameri-

family history is somewhat remarkable. Tradition as | and the heifer Eighth Duchess of Oneida, bought also | this view of such business is not unthought of by rail-

Overloading Cars.

Fifty-two thousand feet of bevel siding is the into the possession of Mr. C. Colling, of Ketton, Duramount that a Chicago shipper recently shipped in a the car on one side, and within six inches of the top on single car load to an up river dealer, and the latter ob- the other. When this is done, it becomes impossible a distinct and highly improved breed. In 1804 Mr. T. jected to receiving it. He said he did not buy a whole to unload the car only from one side, and it is a Bates, of Kirklevington, Yorkshire, purchased one of lumber yard at a single purchase. The incident recalls species of luck, when the car arrives at its destination, the Duchess cows; and recognizing in her excellence and the days when shippers considered 85,000 feet a big that the only side from which it can be unloaded is on that of her male offspring the superiority of the famiload, and resorted to all manner of schemes to get such the opposite side from the dealer's shed or from the ly over the shorthorns he had previously owned, he de- a car load out of the yard and on its way east. Such driveway to which teams have access. termined to secure more of the sort, and at Mr. Col- overloading of cars may some day breed trouble—that money" everywhere, and it is not right to cause a

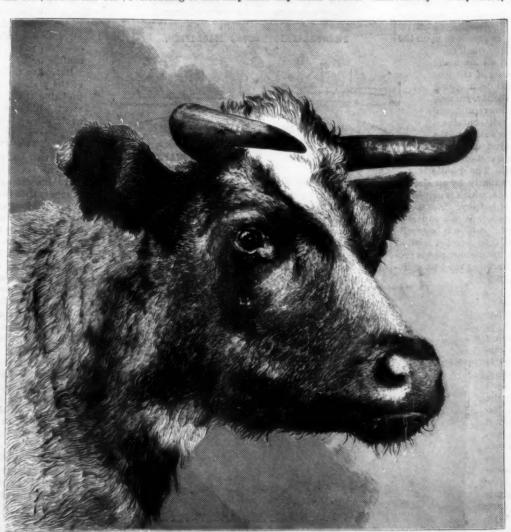
road officials, and some day it may be sprung on an individual who least expects it.

Referring to the above, we are reminded of numerous instances where the stock is piled to the very top of

> buyer to lose the use of a team and one or more employes for perhaps half a day in the labor of "starting a car load," simply to accommodate a shipper in his desire to ship, say, 500 feet more lumber in a car than there is any reason for.-N. W. Lumberman.

Our New Navy.

The Marine Journal says: As a bit of a warning to those of our Washington authorities who would blindly follow the lines laid down by foreign builders of war ships and great guns, it is well to note that the English papers state that the machinery trials of the new steel armor plated cruiser Narcissus have "again proved unsuccessful." Viewed in the light of Captain Bunce's late report on the defects of the Atlanta, and its sister ship, the Boston, built on the same lines, yet untested, this information shows that absolute perfection is not yet assured by following foreign models. And it is also interesting to note that American shipbuilders foretold a number of the defects in the Atlanta demonstrated by the late trials. Would it not be well to build one war ship on a thoroughly American model, untrammeled by foreign precedents where counter to our own ideas?



THE SHORT-HORNED COW TENTH DUCHESS OF GENEVA.

THE NEW PHONOGRAPH.

(Continued from first page.)

He has recently devoted other well known inventions. much time to the phonograph, and has not only perfected the instrument itself, but has established a factory provided with special tools for its manufacture, in which phonographs are to'be turned out in large numbers, with interchangeable parts.

The original instrument above referred to is shown in one of our cuts, which is a reproduction of the engraving published in this journal just ten years ago, in the issue of December 22, 1877. This instrument consists of three principal parts-the mouthpiece, A. into which speech is uttered; the spirally grooved cylinder, B, carrying a sheet of tin foil which receives the record of the movements of the diaphragm in the mouthpiece, A; and a mouthpiece, D, by which the speech recorded on the cylinder is reproduced. In this instrument the shaft of the cylinder, B, is provided with a thread of the same pitch as the spiral on the surface of the cylinder, so that the needle of the receiving mouthpiece is enabled to traverse the surface of the tin foil opposite the groove of the cylinder. By careful adjustment this instrument was made to reproduce familiar words and sentences, so that they would be recognized and understood by the listener; but in general, in the early phonographs, it was necessary that the listener should hear the sounds uttered into the receiving mouthpiece of the phonograph to positively understand the words uttered by the instrument.

In the later instruments, such as were exhibited throughout the country and the world, the same difficulty obtained, and perfection of articulation was sacrificed to volume of sound. This was necessary, as the instruments were exhibited before large audiences, where, it goes without saying, the instrument to be en-tertaining had to be heard. These instruments had but one mouthpiece and one diaphragm, which answered the double purpose of receiving the sound and of giving it out again. Strangely enough, the recently improved phonograph is more like the original one than any of the others. It is provided with two mouth pieces, one for receiving and one for speaking.

The new phonograph, which forms the subject of the larger illustration, is of about the size of an ordinary sewing machine. In its construction, it is something like a very small engine lathe; the main spindle is threaded between its bearings, and is prolonged at one end to receive the hardened wax cylinder upon which the sound record is made. Behind the spindle and the cylinder is a rod upon which is arranged a slide, having at one end an arm adapted to engage the screw of the spindle, and at the opposite end an arm carrying a pivoted head; provided with two diaphragms, whose positions may be instantly interchanged when desirable One of these diaphragms is turned into the position of use when it is desired to talk to the phonograph, and when the speech is to be reproduced, the other dia-phragm takes its place. The diaphragm which receives the speech and makes the impressions upon the

cylinder is shown at 3 in one of the small cuts. The needle by which the impressions are made in the wax is attached to the center of the diaphragm, and pivotally connected to a spring arm attached to the side of the diaphragm cell. The device by which the speech is reproduced is shown in section at 4. The cell contains a delicate diaphragm of gold beater's skin, to the center of which is secured a stud connected with a small curved steel wire, one end of which is attached to the diaphragm cell. The spindle

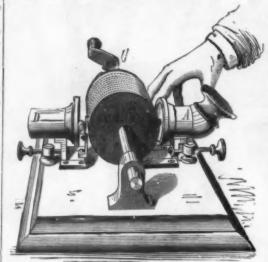
of the phonograph is rotated regularly by an electric a current from one or two cells of battery. The motor is provided with a sensitive governor which causes it to maintain a very uniform speed. Motion is transmitted from the motor to the spindle by beveled friction wheels. The arm which carries the diaphragms is provided with a turning tool for smoothing the wax cylin- of the new instrument depends upon its mechanical with the alteration of the valves; there was no need

der preparatory to receiving the

sound record.

The first operation in the use of the machine is to bring the turning tool into action and cause it to traverse the cylinder. The turning tool is then thrown out, the carriage bearing the diaphragms is returned to the position of starting, the receiving diaphragm is placed in the position of use, and as the wax cylinder revolves, the diaphragm is vibrated by the sound waves, thus moving the needle so as to cause it to cut into the wax cylinder and produce indentations which correspond to the movements of the diaphragm. After the record is made, the carriage is again returned to the point of starting, the receiving diaphragm is replaced by the speaking diaphragm, and the carriage is again moved forward by the serew, as the cylinder

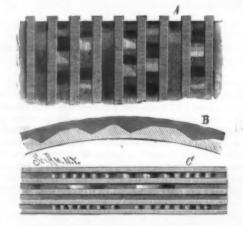
revolves, causing the point of the speaking diaphragm to traverse the path made by the recording needle. As the point of the curved wire attached to the diaphragm follows the indentations of the wax cylinder, the speaking diaphragm is made to vibrate in a manner similar to that of the receiving diaphragm, there-



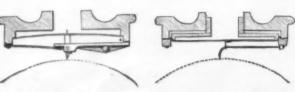
THE FIRST PHONOGRAPH.

by faithfully reproducing the sounds uttered into the receiving mouthpiece

A crucial test of the capabilities of this machine was recently made in our presence, at Edison's laboratory, near Llewellyn Park, Orange, N. J. A paragraph from the morning newspaper was read to the machine in our absence, and when upon our return to the instrument it was reproduced phonographically, every



PHONOGRAPHIC RECORD MAGNIFIED.



RECEIVING DIAPHRAGE.

SPEAKING DIAPHRAGM.

word was distinctly understood, although the names, motor in the base of the machine, which is driven by localities, and the circumstances mentioned in the article were entirely new and strange to us. Another test of the perfection of the machine was the perfect reproduction of whistling and whispering, all the imperfections of tone, the half tones and modulations even, being faithfully reproduced. The perfect performance



THE PHONOGRAPH IN COURT.

perfection-upon the regularity of its speed, the susceptibility of the wax cylinder to the impressions of the needle, and to the delicacy of the speaking diaphragm. No attempt is made in this instrument to secure loud speaking-distinct articulation and perfect intonation have been the principal ends sought.

A highly magnified section of the phonograph cylinder, showing the indentations, is illustrated; A representing a section of the face of the cylinder, B a transverse section of a portion of the cylindrical wax shell, and C showing a less magnified face view of a small portion of the cylinder.

The new phonograph is to be used for taking dietation, for taking testimony in court, for reporting speeches, for the reproduction of vocal music, for teaching languages, for correspondence, for civil and military orders, for reading to the sick in hospitals, and for various other purposes too numerous to men-

Imagine a lawyer dictating his brief to one of these little machines; he may talk as rapidly as he chooses. every word and syllable will be caught upon the delicate wax cylinder, and after his brief is complete he may transfer the wax cylinder to the phonograph of a copyist, who may listen to the words of the phonograph and write out the manuscript. The instrument may be stopped and started at pleasure, and if any portion of the speech is not understood by the transcriber, it may be repeated as often as necessary.

In a similar manner a compositor may set his type directly from the dictation of the machine, without the necessity of "copy," as it is now known.

Mr. Edison informs us that the whole of Nicholas Nickleby could be recorded upon four cylinders each 4 inches in diameter and 8 inches long, so that one of these instruments in a private circle or in a hospital could be made to read a book to a number of persons. The multiple earpiece by which this is accomplished is shown in one of our engravings.

The little wax cylinders upon which the record is made are provided with a rigid backing and the cylinders are made in different lengths; the shortest-1 inch long-having a capacity of 200 words, the next in size 400 words, and so on. These cylinders are very light, and a mailing case has been devised which will admit of mailing the cylinders as readily as letters are now mailed. The recipient of the cylinder will place it on his own phonograph and listen to the phonogram -in which he will not only get the sense of the words of the sender, but will recognize his expression, which will of course have much to do with the interpretation of the true meaning of the sender of the phonogram.

A very interesting and popular use of the phonograph will be the distribution of the songs of great singers, sermons, and speeches, the words of great men and women, music of many parts, the voices of animals. etc., so that the owner of a phonograph may enjoy these things with little expense

It may even be pressed into the detective service and used as an unimpeachable witness. It will have but

one story to tell, and cross examination cannot confuse it.

Extensive preparations for the manufacture of the phonograph have been made, and it is probable that within a short time these instruments will be as common and as indispensable as the sewing machine or the type writer.

The Trial of the Chicago,

This new war steamer lately went on her first trial up Long Island Sound. Capt. Robeson, commanding the Chicago, and Mr. Thomson, her chief engineer, report that the trial was successful; that her engines worked easily and with no sign of weakness, and that she made an average of fifteen knots per hour, reckoning on the resistance of the tides, in a trial of six consecutive hours. The pounding and thumping noticed in the first dock trial of her engines disappeared

> of resorting to forced draught; her steering capacity was all that could be desired; she was steady and free from immoderate vibrations.

> In the Chicago's trial on the Sound the horse power developed has not yet been officially made known, but it is believed to be less, the contract calls for. The average speed secured is also somewhat less than was expected, as it was thought that this might be near sixteen knots. Still, on the whole, the results are thought satisfactory. The type of engines used is wholly experimental in war vessels, though known to a small extent on merchant steamships.

> A VERY useful polishing powder for metals and glass is made of very finely ground glass mixed with a small proportion of dried soda ash.

FILM PHOTOGRAPHY.

The desire of amateur and professional photographers to employ a substitute for glass in photography, on account of its excessive weight and liability to break, has led to the introduction of paper as support for the sensitive film and to the manufacture of improved and new apparatus especially designed for operating the paper.

A negative on paper answers all the requirements of one on glass, except that it requires a trifle longer time

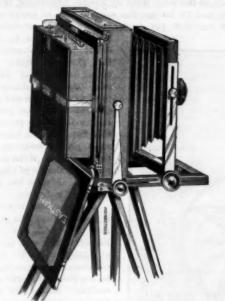


Fig. 1.-EASTMAN CAMERA WITH BOLL HOLDER ATTACHED.

to print from; but quite recently this objection has been overcome by the production of a specially prepared film, which may be readily separated from its paper support after exposure and development, and afterward transferred to a transparent, flexible gelatine support, thereby making a negative equal in every re spect to glass, and also superior to it from the fact that it is non-breakable, more compact, more durable, and can be printed from on both sides, adapting it readily for photogravure purposes, for which reversed negatives are required.

For the civil engineer, geologist, mining engineer, and tourist the film is especially useful, since the weight of glass is avoided, and supplies may easily be obtained through the mails.

We illustrate a new form of camera, adapted for use with a special roll holder or with the ordinary plate holder, as the operator may wish.

Fig. 1 represents a perspective view of the improved Eastman interchangeable camera, in which are to be seen the valuable points desirable in a camera: a front focus, an excellent double rising front, a novel yet simple means of obtaining a horizontal swing, a device for making a side swing, a peculiar but practical plan of attaching the ground glass to the back, by means of which it is instantly adaptable for focusing when either a roll holder or a plate holder is employed, a reversible back, enabling the operator to take pictures upright or horizontally, and a special construction of the bed, which permits the entire back and bellows to be removed and replaced with another back and bellows of larger or smaller dimensions. In addition to all these merits, the camera is made of the very best mahogany, is highly finished, extremely strong, very compact, light, and rigid.

In Fig. 2 is seen the back removed from the bed of

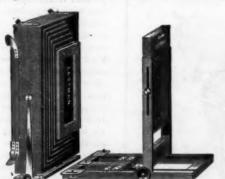


Fig. 2.-CAMERA WITH BACK REMOVED.

the camera, and how different sized backs may be adapted to one bed.

The bottom piece of the back is clamped to the bed by means of two thumb screws. Slots are made in side swing of the bottom plate.

Fig. 3 illustrates the advantages the camera posse the upright arm. The entire front of the camera is improvements, special mechanism has been introduced series of works.

clamped, then the lens board on the front may also be pushed upward as shown. This feature is of great usefulness in photographing objects of great altitude, such



Fig. 3.-THE DOUBLE RISING FRONT.

as high buildings, church steeples, etc., enabling the operator to get pictures without distortion of lines.

In Fig. 4 is seen the new construction of the ground glass frame, and the peculiar mode of fastening it to the reversible back frame of the camera.

The curved metal end pieces at the bottom are at tached by a short link. When used for focusing, this link is pushed inward, which allows the ground glass to shut up tightly against the frame, as shown in Fig. 5.

The curved slotted spring catches at the top, when pushed outward; slip over a pin on the end of the ground glass frame, and lock it as in Fig. 5.



Fig. 4.-THE ADJUSTABLE GROUND GLASS.

After focusing, if an ordinary plate holder is to be used, the ground glass frame is pulled outward, as in Fig. 6, and the holder pushed in between it and the back and clamped thereto. When the thicker roll face of the metal, just as if it had been traced directly. holder is employed, the ground glass hangs down, as in Figs. 1 and 4.

Fig. 7 shows an exterior perspective view of the improved Eastman-Walker roll holder, adapted for holding a spool of sensitive paper behind the camera.

In Fig. 8 may be seen the special improvements recently perfected. Formerly the working mechanism for transfering the paper from one spool to the other



the two side plates on the bed to permit the vertical was supported on a metal frame attached to the removable back board. Now this frame is dispensed with and the spools instead are secured directly to and bein having a double rising front and a swing backward tween the two wood sides of the box, while the front is of the front frame. It also shows the way in which the covered by a removable frame holding the dark slide, paper, and will be mailed free to all applicants. The back of the camera swings on the pivot at the end of plainly seen in the lower view in Fig. 8. Besides these

raised upward through the slotted side uprights and for indicating the number of exposures that are made. The changes have made the holder much lighter, more accessible, and more complete.

It has been the study of the manufacturers to invent methods and apparatus which will prevent failures and insure the successful working of the improved film.

We have described but a few of the devices that have been devised. The simplicity of the film, its certainty, and easy handling make it a most useful article for the photographer.



Fir. 7.- IMPROVED ROLL HOLDER.

We understand the Eastman Dry Plate and Film Co., of Rochester, N. Y., the manufacturers of the above mentioned apparatus, are prepared to furnish complete outfits and all accessories to any wishing in-



Fig. 8 .- INTERIOR AND SLIDE FRONT OF THE ROLL HOLDER.

formation, and will send, on application, a descriptive catalogue, and for two 2 cent stamps a sample film negative made by their process.

Engraving with Mercury and its Salts.

It is known that when mercury is deposited on a metal, fatty lithographic ink will not "take" upon it when an inking roller is passed over it, and that the black adheres to the untouched parts of the metal. If a well polished and clean plate of zinc is taken, and a design is traced thereon with mercury, the design will appear in brilliant white upon the gray background of the zinc. After tracing the design an intaglio plate can be obtained by plunging the plate, without being coated with varnish, into a bath containing 100, parts of water and two parts at least of nitric acid. The action of the acid is very rapid, and for a long time only attacks the parts touched by the mercury. When deep enough, it can be used for lithographic work. If, instead of nitric, hydrochloric acid is used, the contrary effect takes place. The unaffected zinc is strongly attacked, and the traces of the mercury give a relief plate which can be used for ordinary typographical work.

If the operator does not wish to draw upon zinc, the design can be traced upon paper with a salt of mercury. The sheet of paper being then applied for two hours to a plate of zinc, the drawing is sharply reproduced in white lines of amalgam on the gray sur-

The same result is obtained if the design is traced upon paper with a sticky substance (ink containing gum or sugar), and if it is dusted over with a mercury salt in fine powder. On dusting off the surplus and applying the sheet containing the design to a plate of metal, the same result is obtained. The same result is obtained if a newly printed proof is used, and is dusted with mercury salt while the ink is still wet and sticky. All the lines thus reproduced are chemically engraved, as has been described above. The same results are obtained by dusting with mercury salts a photographic carbon print containing a gummy substance, and the effect of half tints is even secured.

Biniodide of mercury is the salt to use.-Memorial Industrielle.

Mutually Benefited.

Some employers are in the habit of presenting their mployes with books treating upon such subjects as pertain to the class of business in which they are engaged. It is a good idea, as both the giver and recipient are thus mutually benefited. Other employers furnish a library of well selected books and a reading room, to which all their help have access, which is a still better scheme. A catalogue comprising more than one hundred pages, containing a list of several hundred books, useful and practical, in every department of science, engineering, mechanics, architecture, optics, etc., has been prepared with great care by the editors of this catalogue states the price by mail for each book or

A COMBINED HAY RAKE AND TEDDER.

rake or ted hay, which is also light-running, without cog gearing, springs, and other unnecessary parts, and which the driver can change, as desired, from one service to the other without leaving his seat, has been patented by Messrs. Israel L. Landis and Albert and Anthony Iske, and is shown in the accompanying illustrations, one view representing the work of tedding, and the other of raking hay. The frame or truck has hangers in which is journaled the main axle, one of its wheels having a pawl lever engaging a ratchet hung around the barn and whinnied so plaintive like on the shaft, to rotate it when the machine is mov- that I took out the bit and put the headstall and nance has not yet been brought to perfection.

ing forward, but allow the shaft to remain idle when backing, to prevent unnecessary turning of the tedding teeth. The pawl lever is allowed to spring laterally, and is moved back of a pin fixed to one of the spokes of the wheel to disengage the pawl when the machine is used as a rake, and adjusted front of the pin when used as a tedder. The tedding or rake teeth are arranged in sets, clamped between heads, preferably made of cast metal and semi-cylindrically recessed to set over a parallel shaft having bearings in the main frame, and turn partially thereon independent of each other. The lower portions of the heads have rearward cam projections and forwardly projecting lips, the cam extensions on the heads engaging arms on the main shaft to operate the sections alternately when the machine is employed as a tedder.

ing duty. The main shaft has an adjustable collar, by means of which the longitudinal movement of the frame may be limited so as to bring the tappet arms into range with the respective cams, this being accomplished by a lever near the front of the main frame, while a foot rest or lock frame is provided with detents by which the lever is held in position, as the machine may be used for a rake or tedder. A lever with its handle near the driver's seat can be operated to raise the rake teeth, being connected with a longitudinal bar to hold the rake teeth to move simultaneously when desired, the bar having a weighted lever under control of the driver by which it may be operated to set and unset the rakes. A transverse bar carries clearing arms which extend rearwardly between the rake teeth, and this bar may be clamped to hold the clearing fingers at any desired inclination. The driver's seat is pivoted, and has a slotted shank which is adjustably secured to an inclined standard. The operating hand lever is used for raising and deeach rake or tedder section is a spring to keep the rake teeth yieldingly down to their work. As a ted These very extraordinary figures appear so favorable

der, the machine is designed to slowly and effectually turn the hay over, separating the bunches so as to permit a free circulation of air through all parts, and facilitate its proper drying.

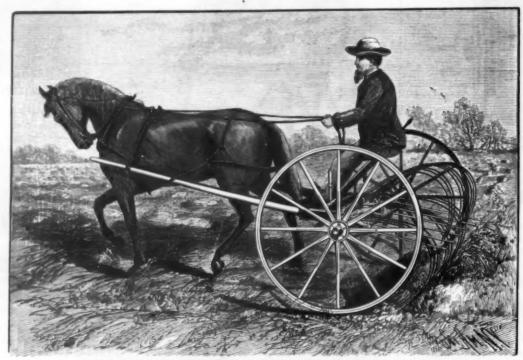
For further information relative to this invention address Mr. Israel L. Landis, Lancaster, Pa.

A Horse in Speciacles.

In the last issue of the SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN WE published an account of the experiment of fitting spectacles to a short-sighted horse, in England, which had proved satisfactory, and now we have to record a similar experiment by a farmer up in Connecticut. A contemporary thus describes it:

A horse with goggles was one of the attractions at Bridgeport, Conn., a short time ago. The Manlius farmer who owned him said he discovered recently

A machine which may be changed, at will, either to list took the necessary measurements, and, sending to New York, had a pair of concave spectacles made expressly for Dobbin. When the farmer tried them for the first time, the horse appeared to be startled, but recovering from his surprise, manifested every symptom of pleasure. They are made so as to be firmly fastened in the headstall, and cannot be worn with out that piece of harness. "When I turn him out to pasture," said the farmer, "he feels uneasy and uncomfortable without his goggles, and last Sunday he



LANDIS COMBINED RAKE AND TEDDER-TEDDING THE HAY.

but clearing the arms when the machine is doing rak- goggles on him, and he was so glad that he rubbed my shoulders with his nose. Then he kicked up his heels tour without permanent deformation. Having cast and danced down to the pasture. You ought to have seen him. I hate to let him wear specs all the time, though, for fear he will break them."

Aluminum Bronze for Cannons and Machinery.

The extraordinary properties possessed by the aluminum alloys has for upward of a year been a subject of frequent comment. It has been suggested as a material for structures in which lightness was to be combined with strength. Recently some tests under government auspices have been made at the Watertown arsenal by the testing machine illustrated in our last issue. The alloy tested was aluminum bronze, a compound characterized by the presence of copper and aluminum. The former metal forms by far the largest portion. The tests were applied to the grade known as A 3. One sample cast in sand gave a tensile strength of 53,000 lb. to the square inch, and an elongation of 62 per cent before breaking. Another sample pressing the rake teeth, to gather the hay on the forks of the same metal cast in chilled moulds resisted a and deposit it in windrows, and in the upper head of strain of 67,000 lb. before giving way. The elongation

that the animal was very near-sighted, and an occu- in comparison with steel that the new aluminum copper alloy may be adopted in the construction of machinery for the vessels of the navy. While it is true that the cost per pound of the bronze exceeds that of steel, the fact that intricate castings can be made from it counterbalances the item of greater first cost. The expense incident to forging and shaping steel will be largely saved.

But it is not only for machinery that there is an outlook for the bronze. It may yet prove the solver of the problems involved in the construction of large cannon. In spite of the work done by Krupp, Armstrong, Whitworth, and De Bange, the construction of heavy ord-

> The tendency is to construct built - up cannon. But these inevitably involve elements of weakness. The jars and heating to which they are subjected strain their many joints. In service, large pieces of this construction have always proved wanting. A cast metal gun, if the metal possessed the proper qualities, would seem the perfection of ordnance.

In aluminum bronze it is possible that this metal may be found. It was the subject of a recent lecture at Annapolis, by Mr. A. H. Cowles. He began by alluding to experiments with ordinary bronze for cannon, as recently conducted in Austria. He said that for gun manufacture he would start with an aluminum compound of 70,000 lb tensile strength per square inch. Its clastic limit should be 23 000 lb. per square inch. This means that, if such a stress was applied to it, it would, on

being released, return perfectly to its original conthe gun, he would next force mandrels through the bore to compress the metal near it, which would increase the strength of the critical layer of metal that first receives the strain of the explosion to 100,000 lb. per square inch. The elastic limit would be thus increased for the same layer of metal to 60,000 or 70,000 lb. Such a gun, the lecturer believed, would stand four times the strain that can be endured by a built-up gun.

There is no question that there is food for much thought in the suggestion, and that the new metal should be critically experimented with. The ordnance of Europe is far from perfect, as we have said. If it was ascertained that the bronze was all that it seems to be, if it was found that it was manageable for large castings, and was not subject to erosion in the bore, the government of this country could at one step become the equal of other lands in artillery. In using a metal that can be cast, and that is benefited by chilling, the plant would be simplified and a rapid production of guns would be insured.

Metallic Derivatives of Acetyl-acetone.

The author has shown in former memoirs that the

hydrogen atoms of the central chain, CH2, characteristic of acetyl-acetone, present remarkable analogies with the hydrogens of the acid hydroxyls. They are not attacked by the direct action of chlorine, and they can be easily substituted by sodium. He now shows that acetyl-acetone and its homologues act upon metallic salts like true strong acids, and that we may thus obtain with all the metals a new class of definite crystalline pounds, the acetyl-acetonates, answering to the general formula (C, H, O,)nM. M being a metal of n atomicity.-Alphonse Combes.



LANDIS COMBINED RAKE AND TEDDER-RAKING THE HAY.

VANILLIN is not a satisfactory substitute for vanilla, according to several American pharmacists. Even when coumarin is added to the essence, the flavor gradually becomes

ENGINEERING INVENTIONS

A car coupling has been patented by Mr. Fred Tiedt, Sr., of Euclid, Minn. It is a double coupler designed to automatically couple with an ep-posing coupler of like pattern, and with provision for coupling with the ordinary link drawhead without changing the links or interfering with the arran

A lubricator has been patented by Mr. Patrick Brownley, of St. John, New Brunswick, Can It is adapted for use in connection with the steam chests of locomotive, hoisting, and other engines, and is made not to depend upon suction or the formation of a vacuum for the proper operation of the lubricator

A car coupling attachment has been patented by Mr. Stephen D. Smith, of Spotswood, N. J. It consists of a folding frame carrying a lever, a nose being pivotally mounted within the frame, and arranged to support the free end of the outer coupling link and be held in position by the lever, making a three link coupling," which may be coupled without trainmen going between the cars.

AGRICULTURAL INVENTION.

A planter and drill has been patented by Mr. Russell Brock, of Gladstone, Ohio. This invention relates to a corn planter designed to open a furrow, clear the soil of weeds in advance of the shovel, previde means for dropping the seed at regular intervals, and cover the seed when dropped.

MISCELLANEOUS INVENTIONS.

A faucet has been patented by Mr. George W. Aldrich, of Brooklyn, N. Y. It has a lo removable and revoluble valve support or seat, of spider like or open work construction, within the adjustable nozzle section of the faucet, and a soft or flexible and clastic ball valve, preferably of rubber.

A key hole guard has been patented by Mr. Alfred J. Urlin, of Missoula, Montana Ter. This invention provides a slide block preventing persons seeing through the keyhole, or the admission of cold air, etc., and also preventing the key from being turned from the outside, or from falling out of the lock

An explosive compound has been patented by Mr. Lucien G. Heusschen, of Paris, France. It is made with coal oil or naphthaline and glycerine, mixed with nitrate of potash or soda, suphuric acid and sulphate of iron, together with carbonaceous matter, as carbonized tan or sawdust, and also sulphur.

A reel has been patented Mr. Frederick Eitapenc, of Oneonta, N. Y. It is intended more particularly for holding lead pipe in colled condition, and safe from injury during transportation or shipment, the invention covering certain novel features of construction and combinations of parts.

A jail window has been patented by Donald McDonald, of Louisville, Kv. Combined with gratings set in grooved stones is a hinged or swinging sash, with connecting rod and operating cord, to pre-vent tools and other things being handed in to prisoners, while providing for the admission of light and air.

A tablet binder has been patented by Mr. William B. Pearson, of Jacksonville, Ill. Com bined with covers and a flexible back is a metallic strip ected to the back and formed with a lug or ear, a folding clip and side clips, it being feasible to use a single binder for a number of tablets in succession.

An oven door has been patented by Mr. John R. Conrad, of Long Pine, Neb. It has a Tshaped opening covered with graduated transparent material, a securing plate and a socket in which is a thermometer, for accurately indicating the heat of the oven, and for inspecting its contents without opening

A pegging jack has been patented by Mr. Nathaniel Kinney, of Amity, Democracy P. O., Ohio. It is made in sections so connected that the upper section carrying the shoe clamp may be raised and lowered to adapt it to different heights, the invention covering various novel features of construction and arrangement of parts.

A longitudinally expanding roller has been patented by Mr. Arnold W. Schlichte, of New York City. It has sheathing plates arranged to be moved backward and forward upon the face of the roller, the plates being gradually drawn outward as the roller moves forward, and rapidly forced inward as they arrive at a certain predetermined point,

An elevator gate has been patented by Mr. Eugene F. Hardin, of Lincoln, Neb. It is fitted to elide in vertical guides fixed to the side posts at the shaft opening, these posts being hollow to receive weights, making a simple and effective safety gate which will be opened automatically by the rising car riage, and closed automatically as the carriage farthe

A gate has been patented by Mr. Gus H. Ingersoil, of Franktown, Col. It is adapted to be opened and closed by the wheels of passing vehicles, or may be opened from the vehicle while horses are traveling either way toward the gate, and may be automatically closed behind the vehicle, the invention covering various novel features for the making of a simple and inexpensive gate.

An egg beater and mixer combined has been nted by Mr. Louis Rosenkranz, of Rhim beck, N. Y. It is so made that as a crank shaft is revolved beaters are carried around a central shaft to cut and agitate the material in the body of the receptacle, elevating it also from the bottom toward the top, th action of the apparatus being such that it not only beats the material, but thoroughly mixes it at the same time

A numbering head for printing presse has been patented by Mr. John G. Sauer, of New York City. It is made with a main casing and inner frame carrying the numbering disks, arranged to receive an

out and in move nt in the main casing from contact with the platen of the press, thus turning the numbering disks for consecutively numbering the sheets they are printed.

A shutter fastener has been patented by Mr. James B. Kelly, of Canton, Miss. It is an ef-fective fastening both for the blinds and the window, which cannot be tampered with from the outside, and when the blinds are thrown open the device swings with the blinds out of the way, while by it the blinds may be held closed in a convenient manner, both when

A mouthpiece for speaking tubes has patented by Mr. Patrick McGunnigle, of New York City. It is composed of two main parts conn back of the bell by a lap joint, in such way that the shaft and whistle have their axis at the diaer of the mouthpiece, and thus avoid hinges and other details of construction of the ordinary form of

A machine for sharpening and gumming saws has been patented by Mr. George P. Salten-berer, of Hamburg, Ark. It is for use with gin saws, and has reciprocating files which operate simultaneously and are drawn back out of contact with the saw teeth at the moment when the saws are being turned, the device being readily changed from a saw to a saw gummer, and being very rapid and efficient in

A wagon brake lever has been patent ed by Mr. George J. Riblet, Sr., of Shinnston, West Va. A lever is fulcrumed on the brake hand lever, engaging with one end a fixed segment, a spring lever fulcrumed on the brake hand lever, provided with a segmental gear wheel arm, meshing into a segmental gear wheel arm formed on the other lever, making a lock for the lever of a wagon brake in which the lever is firmly held in place when the brakes are applied.

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN BUILDING EDITION.

DECEMBER NUMBER.

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

degant Plate in Colors of a Suburban Dwelling costing about Nine Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars, with floor plans, specifications, sheet of details, etc.

Plate in Colors of a Dwelling erected near Wareham, Mass., at a cost of Twenty-eight Hundred Dollars, with full specifications, floor plans, sheet of details, etc.

3. The Shakespeare Memorial at Stratford-upon

Perspective view and floor plans of a Residence to cost Eight Thousand Dollars.
 Engravings of Five Tasteful Residences recently erected at Glenridge, N. J., varying in cost from Four Thousand to Six Thousand, Five Hundred Dollars.

6. Perspective view, detail drawings, specifica-tions, roof, and floor plans of a Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollar California House.

Engravings showing interior and front view of Chateau of Castelnaudary. M. Aubry, Archi-

Lea Hurst, Derbyshire, the home of Miss Flo-rence Nightingale.

9. Elevations and floor plans of Homes of Factory Operatives at Williamntic, Conn.

Bathing House and Saloon at Vittel. Built by Charlies Garnier, Architect, of Paris.

 Floor plans and perspective sketch for a Cot tage costing about Five Thousand Five Hun dred Dollars. Perspective view and floor plans of a Cottage costing Four Thousand Two Hundred Dollars.

Front and rear perspectives, with plans, for a Handsome Stable being erected in Brooklyn, N. Y. Cost, Five Thousand Five Hundred Dollars.

Perspective view and floor plans of a Residence for Five Thousand Dollars.

Perspective view and plans of a Neat Dwelling costing Four Thousand Two Hundred Doi-

Haif page engraving of the John Crouse Memo-rial College for Women, Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York.

Plans for a French Cottage, Hotel de Peintre Meudon.

Plans for a French Cottage, Hotel de Peintre, Meudon.
Miscellaneous Contents: Optical Refinements in Architecture.—Testing Pile Protecting Compounds.—Our Forestry Problem.—Bamboo Tree.—Fire-proof Structures, illustrated.—Construction of Chimney Flues.—Roadside Plantations of Trees in Helgium.—An Egyptian Temple.—The White Ash.—Ornamental Keystones, three illustrations.—Sawdust, how Utilized.—Fire Bricks.—Improvements in Making Portland Cement.—Typhoid Fever Carried by Well Water.—An Unsafe Church.—Codar Pavements.—Hemlook for Paving Purposes.—Collapse of Walls of Burning Buildings.—Relative Value of Wire and Cut Nails.—How to Build an Ice House.—Look to your Drain Pipes and Wells.—Arch Construction.—New Form of Chimes for Churches, illustrated.—Paintings.—Removal of Chimneys.—The Buck Yard.—Pime Woods.—Sketch of Thomas Ustick Walter.—Hoburite, a New Explosive, with illustrations.—Iron Beams in Place of Wood.—Gangways v. Staircases.—How we have Grown.—A Great Building.—Proportions of Rooms.—How a Marble Statue is Made.—The Walmwright Horizontal Feed Water Heater, illustrated.—The Sounding Board in St. Paul's Cathedral.—Gleuson's Double Surface Planer, illustrated.—How to Make a Cheerful Fireplace, illustrated.—How by Make a Cheerful Fireplace, illustrated.—How Bounding Board in St. Paul's Cathedral.—Gleuson's Double Surface Planer, illustrated.—The Popular "Fortune" Hot Air Furnace, illustrated.—An Improved Hand and Foot Power Band Saw, illustrated.—Plants for Room Decoration.

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Special.

A NEW MINISTERIAL EXPERIENCE. One year ago last December the pastor of a church in Philadelphia was forced to surrender his pulpit, and, acting on his physician's advice, with his young wife sought the warmer climate of Florida. Both were consumptive, and when it became evident that the young minister must relinquish a future that promised so much, he was broken (in spirit. Together these two afflicted persons traveled toward the milder latitudes. It seemed a journey to death. Nothing more pathetic has been seen since Charles and Mary Lamb set out hand in hand, and sith teaching the control of the second of the control of the second of the control of the contr sees since Charles and Mary Lamb set out hand in hand, and with tearful eyes, toward the madhouse to which they had self-condemned themselves. The parting from their friends and parishioners at the railroad station was affecting in the highest degree. Several long, weary months followed, in which the hoped-for improvement was awaited. It came not. Both man and wife graduwas awaited. It came not. Both man and wire gradu-ally grew weaker. The little cottage they had taken at Jacksonville finally began to lack necessary comforts. A small negro servant had to be discharged because she could no longer be paid. Then the despairing young wife took to her bed, and rapidly grew worse. One good lady assumed that Jeath was inevitable, and hoped only to make the end as painless as possible. In her mission of kindness she encountered a hale old gentleman who, after he had given her a ten dollar note, added: "I will do more. I will send that unfortunate woman my Compound Oxygen. I always take it with me to cure sudden colds or throat affections; but I know what it can do even in desperate cases." In a few minutes he was ready, and accompanied the noble hearted lady to the house of suffering. Hot water was readily procurable, and in a brief time the consumptive was inhaling the Compound Oxyen, evolved from one of Drs. Starkey & Palen's Home Treatments. At the end of a week notable improvement in the woman's condition set in. The end of another week's treatment found her seated in a chair on the porch, and sho was soon after able to walk about. Meanwhile full advice had been received from Dr. Starkeys at 6th Compound Oxygen, they have a few the Compound Oxygen, they have a few the Compound Oxygen, they have a few them. key as to the Compound Oxygen, two Home Treatments and a to the compound oxygen, two Home Treatments had arrived, and the minister began to give some attention to his own case. Friends gathered around them amid the Land of Oranges, and now they are both in a degree of health that enables the pastor to resume his pulpit and his good wife the care of her own home.

A valuable and interesting pamphlet on the methods of manufacture and of treatment by Compound Oxygen is sent free to all who desire it, by Drs. Starkey & Palen, 1529 Arch Street, Philadelphia.

Special Motice.

The following is a copy of a testimonial received by

the Star Machine Co., of Buffalo, N. Y.:

Navy Yard, New York, July 5, 1887.

Sin:—In obedience to your order of the 9th of June (a copy hereunte attached), to make a careful and thorough test of the Star Machine Co.'s Improved Portable Forge, the Board met on June 28 and proceeded to carry

out said order. Forge No. 8, as per circular appended, was the one chosen for trial, it being best suited for purposes under the cognizance of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, for

use on board of vessels. use on noard of vessels.

After a fire had been well under way, two pieces of tron, two inches in diameter, were brought to a welding heat in five (5) minutes and a clean, smooth weld made.

The blast is excellent and continuous; the frame of the forge well braced, and set screws are so arranged as to take up the lost motion of the shaft and other parts.

In conclusion, we beg to state that it is the best Portable Forge that has come under our notice, and we therefore recommend it for use in the Naval Service.

Very respectfully.

JOHN L. D. BOTHWICK, Chief Engineer, U. S. N.

J. J. BARRY,
Passed Ass't Engineer, U. S. N. F. C. BOWERS.

Ass't Engineer, U. S. N.

Bancroft Gherardi, U. S. Navy nanding U. S. Navy Yard, New York,

A copy of the original report can be seen at our office, Nos., 198 and 200 Terrace, Buffalo, N. Y.

Business and Personal.

The charge for Insertion under this head is One Dollar a line for each insertion; about eight words to a line. nts must be received at publication as early as Thursday morning to appear in next issue.

Manufacturers' Advertising in the Manufacturing, Scientific, and Commercial Papers of America and Foreign Countries at combination rates.

Manufacturers' Advertising Bureau and Press Agency, 111, Liberty Street, New York.

Benj. R. Western, Treasurer. Best of references The Sturtevant Mill (a rock crusher and pulverizer The sciritums aim to rock cluster and parterior combined is specially adapted to grinding phosphate ock, cement, ores, and all kinds of refractory material, and is meeting with ready sale in this country and in Europe. Full information, with circulars, etc., can be add by addressing Sturtevant Mill Co., 89 Mason Buildhad by addre

ing, Boston, Mass. Engine lathes, chucks, planers, drills, shapers, press es, shears, etc. Machine and blacksmith shop equipment a specialty. Send for special prices and cuts, stating ex-actly what is required. W. B. Drew, agt., S. C. Forsaith Mch. Co., Manchester, N. H.

Air compressor, rock drills. Jas. Clayton, 48 Dey St., New York

LINK BELTING (malleable iron, detachable).-Used for transmission of power and in improved applied for handling any material in bulk or package. Send catalogue. Link Belt Machinery Co., Chicago.

234 H. P. engine, \$75.00. 2 H. P. engine and boiler complete, \$125.00. 2 to 50 H. P. engines and boilers a pecialty. American Machinery Co., Cleveland, O.

Very thick walrus, hippopotamus, giraffe, elephant, and buffalo leather for polishing metals. Greene, Tweed & Co., & Chambers St., New York.

The Milwankee Cement Co., Milwankee, Wisconsin, formation, with circulars, etc., can be had by a Sturtevant Mill Co., & Mason Building, Boston

Woodworking machinery, planers and matchers. moulders, arroll and band saws, tenoners mortisers, saw, clapboard and shingle mills saws, belting, shafting, and smill supplies. Send for catalogues and obtain our prices. W. E. Drew, agt., S. C. Forsaith Mch. Co., Manchester, N. H.

Among the fertilizer works using the Sturtevant Mill Among the reinflase works using the startevist sill for pulverlising phosphate rock may be mentioned the Pacific Guano Co., Woods Holl, Mass.: Walton & Wham Co., Which was the Co., Edward Fortilizer Co., Elizabethe Co., Charleston, S. C.: Bowker Fertilizer Co., Elizabethe Vor. N. J., all of whom are greatly pleased with the work done, and consider it the best and most economical prosent hat can be adout the contract of the con cess that can be adopted.

Large and small punch presses and machine tools S. M. York, Cleveland, O.

Saws-How to straighten and gum all kinds. See p.

Wanted by a Brick Manufacturing Co.-A good draughtsman. Also a first class mechanic as foreman. Address box 87, Lancaster, Pa.

Silver Plating without a battery .- Silver held in solution. No acids, no quicksliver. Quick, sure, cheap. Send for circular. H. T. Ladd, 46 Beekman St., New York.

For combination lathe chucks, with bodies and laws ground true: two spindle machines, for drilling and reaming centers of shafts 3" and less diameter: taps, dies, thread tools, small bench drills, for anateurs and machinists: and for reliable automatic grain weighers, address the Pratt & Whitney Co., Hartford, Conn.,

Latest Success ! Marion Waltz. Send for copy, Price, Afty cents, postpaid. H. M. Western, 111 Liberty St., N. Y.

The American Engineer. Gaff Build Chicago, Ill. Send for sample copy and premium list for 1888.

Manufacturing establishments desiring a Chicago ou. chasing agent for machinery and supplies should write to Fred. A. Rich, 28 South Canal St., Chicago.

Engines and boliers, port. and sta., hor. and vert. Any power required. Send for bid, stating exactly your wants, that you may consult our prices before spending a dollar in this line. W. E. Drew, agt., S. C. Forsaith Mch. Co., Manchester, N. H.

The Kansas Coal and Mining Co., Kansas City, Mo., have recently erected a 12" Sturtevant Mill for grinding cement rock, and express themselves as highly pleased with it, considering it the best machine made for this

A tried business man, one familiar with the sale of machinery, is wanted to take entire charge of a large and growing business in a triving city on the Pacific coast.
An applicant possessed of capital would be offered an interest in the house. The position will be given to a suitable person without capital if such a one applies. Address, with references and full statement of qualifi-cations and experience, "Machinery," P. O. box 773, New

Boilermakers' tools, Hand and foot power machinery. Fred. A. Rich, 23 South Canal St., Chi

Working drawings of mach'y and factory plants, uildings included. Indicator tests of steam and gas engines. J. H. Muller, eng., 319 B'dway, room 10, N. Y.

Nickel Plating .- Manufacturers of pure nickel an-Note: Frating.—Manisteriers of prior intentions of odes, pure nickel salts, polishing compositions, etc. \$100 "Little Wonder." A perfect Electro Plating Machine. Agents of the new Dip Lacquer Kristaline. Complete outfit for plating, etc. Hanson, Van Winkle & Co., Newark, N. J., and 22 and 34 Liberty St., New York;

Burnham's New Improved Turbine. Sold at nanufacturing and advertising. Address York, Pa.

The St. Louis Smelting and Refining Co., St. Louis, Mo., are using a 12" Sturtevant Mill for grinding their ores, matter, etc., and report that they get a product of ten tons per hoar from the mill to pass a 10-mesh

Lacquers .- Zapon, Brilliantine, Brassoline, Opaline, and other lacquers and special varnishes. *Brilliant*, *hard*, *durable*. Send for catalogue. The Fred'k Crane Chemical Co., Short Hills, N. J. N. Y. agent, Horace Van Sands, 7:3 Broadway.

Wanted-A foreman for a foundry job shop. About 40 moulders employed. Address, stating age, reference, and salary expected, Foundry, box No. 3143, Boston,

Perforated metals of all kinds for all purposes. The Robert Aitchison Perforated Metal Co., Chicago, Ill.

For the latest improved diamond prospecting drills, ldress the M. C. Bullock Mfg. Co Chicago, Ill.

The Railroad Gazette, handsomely illustrated, published weekly, at 73 Broadway, New York. Spec copies free. Send for catalogue of railroad books.

The Knowles Steam Pump Works, 113 Federal St., Boston, and 35 Liberty St., New York, have just is-sued a new catalogue, in which are many new and im-proved forms of Pumping Machinery of the single and duplex, steam and power type. This catalogue will be nailed free of charge on application. Link Belting and Wheels. Link Belt M. Co., Chicago

Presses & Dies. Ferracute Mach. Co., Bridgeton, N. J. Iron Planer, Lathe, Drill, and other machine tools of odern design. New Haven Mfg. Co., New Haven, Conn Supplement Catalogue.-Persons in pursuit of information of any special engineering, mechanical, or scientific subject, can have catalogue of contents of the Scientific AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT sent to them free.

The SUPPLEMENT contains lengthy articles embracing the whole range of engineering, mechanics, and physics

The Holly Manufacturing Co., of Lockport, N. Y. will send their paniphlet, describing water works mary, and containing reports of tests, on application Curtis Pressure Regulator and Steam Trap. See p. 364. Billings' Patent Breech-loading Single Barrel Shot-

science. Address Munn & Co., Publishers, New York.

Billings & Spencer Co., Hartford, Co We are sole manufacturers of the Fibrous Ashestos Removable Pipe and Botler Coverings. We asbestos goods of all kinds. The Chalmers-Spence Co., 419 and 421 East 8th Street, New York.

Universal & Independent 9 Jaw Chucks for brass work, oth box & round body. Cushman Chuck Co., Hartford, Ct The Improved Hydraulic Jacks, Punches, and Tube

Expanders. R. Dudgeon, M Columbia St., New Friction Clutch Pulleys. D. Frisbie & Co., N.Y. city. Tight and Slack Barrel Machinery a specialty. John Greenwood & Co., Rochester, N.Y. See illus. adv., p. 28.

Graphite Labricating Co., Jersey City, N. J. Graphite bushings and bearings, requiring no gre

Quints' patent automatic steam engine governor. Correspondence solicited from manufacturers of throt-tic governor engines. Leonard & McCoy, 118 Liberty Street, New York.

Cutarrh Cured.

A clergyman, after years of suffering from that loath-A denymna, after years or sustering from that loads-some disease, catarrh, and vailid trying every known remedy, at last found a prescription which completely cured and saved him from death. Any sufferer from this dreadful disease sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to Prof. J. A. Lawrence, 212 East 9th 8t., Now York, will receive the recipe free of charge.

Lathes for cutting irregular forms a specialty. See ad. p. 349.

Graphite Bushings .- Put them on all loose pulleys. Band saws, with tipping table. All kinds woodwork ing machinery. Rollstone Machine Co., Fitchburg, Mass.

Planing and Matching Machines. All kinds Wood Working Machinery. C. B. Rogers & Co., Norwich, Conn. Leather link belting is the most reliable for dynamos and swift running machinery. For particular Chas. A. Schieren & Co., 47 Ferry St., New York.

Talcott's beit hooks. Best made. Providence, R. I. Send for new and complete catalogue of Scientific Books for sale by Muna & Co., St. Broadway, N. V. Free

NEW BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS.

A PRACTICAL TREATISE ON ANIMAL AND VEGETABLE FATS AND OILS. By William T. Brannt. Philadelphia: Henry Carey Baird & Co. 244 en-gravings. I vol., 8vo, 739 pages. Price \$7.50.

We have here one of the most useful, as well as the most creditable, contributions which have ever been made to the technical literature of this country. Not only is it thorough and complete, but it stands almost entirely alone in English literature. It is the first treatise of the kind in our literature which does anything ere than dip here and there into this highly and widely important subject. The want of such a book has been long and severely felt; and this eminent house, hich has done so much for the diversified industria of this country, in its publications, has, we venture to say, neverdone a better service than by the publica-tion of this treatise. The great work of Dr. Karl Schaedler, upon which it is largely based, is well known to technologists and other chemists as the most com-plete and reliable book on fixed oils, animal, vegetable, and mineral, published in Europe; but Mr. Brannt, the accomplished American editor, has added largely to the work of Dr. Schaedler, especially in the departm volatile oils and lubricants. The matter of Mr. Brannt has been collected from widely extended sources and treats very thoroughly those oils which are pecu-liarly American, whether fixed or volatile, more especially cotton seed, lard, peppermint, sassafras, birch, etc. The title of this volume conveys a fair idea of the contents, but we would advise our readers that the publishers have adopted a system of issuing with each of their new and important publications a circular giving the full table of contents and speci-mens of the illustrations. Such a circular of this book can be had on application to Messrs, Henry Carey Baird & Co. There is one especial feature in the publications of this house to be highly commended, and it is worthy of imitation by other publishers. We refer to their full tables of contents and to their ample indexes, which render all important subjects in any of their books easy of reference.



HINTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Names and Adress must accompany all letters, or no attention will be paid thereto. This is for our information, and not for publication.

References to former articles or answers should give date of paper and page or number of question. In quirles not answered in reasonable time should be repeated; correspondents will bear in mind that some answers require not a little research, and, though we endeavor to reply to all, either by letter

Special Written Information on matters of necessarial rather than general interest cannot be Scientific American Supplements referred

Books referred to promptly supplied on receipt of Minerals sent for examination should be distinctly

(1) A. L. J. asks: 1. What will take rust from finety polished steel, such as drawing instru-ments, etc., without scratching them? A. Mix 10 parts of tin putty, 8 of prepared buck's hora, and 25 of alco-bol to a paste. Cleanse the article with this, and finally rub with soft blotting paper, 2. What will prevent ug? A. You can preserve them by a coat of colorless lacquer. 2. How to clean gun barrels of rust and keep them so? A. The gun can be cleaned by stopping the opening and pouring in mercury, which, on affine. A A good coment for leather for patching shoes?

A. Make a rubber cement. See Scientific American let it dry; then clean off, and glue it at the joint with Supergment. No. 158, under " Cementa."

(2) W. H. H. asks: 1. Are pumpkins a good milk-producing food for cows, and have pumpkin seed a tendency to dry up milch cows? A. Pumpkins make a rich food for cows, producing good milk, but not so much as with other kinds of food. They have a drying tendency, and should not be made an exclusive diet under any circumstances. Plenty of hay, a little bran or meal, and a little pumpkin is a good receipt for late fall and winter fodder. 2. What is the best plant for stopping the washing of the banks of a stream where the sell is light and sandy? A. Willow, and plenty of it. 2. Is there any good grass for pasture that will thrive on sandy and gravelly bottom land, where native blue grass will burn out in August? A. Try timothy and clover mixed,

(3) J. E. desires a receipt for making a good blue black copying ink. Take of Aleppo galle, bruised, 9 ounces, bruised cloves 2 drachma, cold water bruised, 9 cances, bruised cloves 2 cracma, cold water 80 cunces, snlphate of iron 3 cances, sulpharic acid 70 minims, sulphate of indigo, thin paste, 4 drachms. Piace the gall with the cloves in a gallon bottle, pour upon them the water and digest, shaking often, for a fortnight. Press and filter through paper into another gallon bottle. Next put in the sulphate of iron, dissolve it, add the acid, and shake briskly. Lastly add the indigo, mix well, and filter again through paper. The ink is to be kept in well corked bottles.

(4) J. A. P.-We are not acquainted with the special variety of cough drops mentioned by lent article: Tincture of squills 2 ounces, camphorated tincture of opium and tincture of tolu, of each 1/4 ounce, wine of ipecac % onnce, oil of wintergreen 4 drops, sassafras 3 drops, and of anise seed oil, 2 drops. The above mixture is to be put into 5 pounds of candy which is ust ready to take from the fire, and continue the boiling a little longer.

(5) S. O. H. asks whether the killing of ligators is an industry, if the hides are tanned used to any great extent, and what per cent of so-called alligator hides are gennine. A. It is an irregular occu-pation of quite a number, in many places along our southern coast, and, although the supply of skins varies much, a great many thousand are tanned every year. Imitation akins are, however, much more numerous being made largely of sheepskins and limitedly of spli cow hides. A great deal of tough paper stock is made in .mitation of alligator leather.

(6) T. M. S. asks: 1. What can I put on my watch face to make it luminous, so that the time can be read in the dark? A. Coat it with luminous paint. See the articles on the paint in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT, Nos. 249 and 407. 2. What solution will remove ink stains from carpets and blots from paper? A. Use a solution of oxalic or citric acid. followed, in the case of the carpet, with copious washings with cold water. S. How can I make a good, hard walk at small cost, in the country? A. See the article on Foot Walk Pavements," in SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN SUPPLEMENT, No. 82.

(7) J. H. D. asks for a receipt to remove paint from a wood carving without damaging the wood, as burning or scraping would ruin it. A. Mix 1 part by eight of pearlash with 3 parts quick stone lime by laking the lime in water and then adding the pearlash, making the mixture about the consistence of paint.

Lay the above over the whole of the work required to be cleaned, with an old brush; let it remain 14 or 16 ours, when the paint can easily be scraped off.

(8) E. P. M. asks: What amount of oxygen, hydrogen, and carbon is there in steel? A. Steel contains no oxygen, save in the rast there may be upon the ontside, and only a possibility of a minute portion of hydrogen. The elements of steel vary much to meet its special qualities. It contains carbon to the amount of from 0'1 of 1 per cent in soft or Bessemer to 2 per cent in high grade In addition to the variations in carbon, it may have silicon and sulphur to the extent of one-tenth of 1 per cent, also phosphorus five one-hundredths of 1 per cent. A grade called manganese steel may have per cent. about 114 per cent of mangazese. All iron and steel is subject to rust from exposure to snow and rain, unless especially protected.

(9) W. C. P. asks: 1. Does paint or black japan injure the sound of a whistle or gong? A. ld probably change the tone. 2. What can 1 use to thoroughly remove paint or black japan on a whistle or gong which cannot be taken down, and can only be reached by means of a ladder? A. If you can get at, the whistle to clean it, you certainly can take off the bell by unscrewing the nut on top, which will enable you also to unscrew the bell from the stud. Boil the bell in caustic sods or potash, which grate the varnish and allow it to be rubbed off.

(10) R. R. W. writes: I wish to move large building over ice which freezes from 2 to 314 Will it be safe? A. Ice 8 inches thick will sup port heavy wagons and artillery. The crushing strength of ice varies from 327 to 1,000 pounds per square inch. At the lowest figures this is 23 tons to a square foot-This does not represent the bearing power of the ice covering water, in which case it becomes elastic under pressure, and may give way without crushing. A building of moderate weight may readily be moved over ice 3 feet thick, if properly set on runners of large bearing, and moved along at a fair pace. The only difficulty in such work arises from suspension of the work, when the weight might press the ice down in the vicinity of the building, and cause cracks which would flood the depressed surface, and possibly cause dis-

(11) H. R. E. writes: I have a fine Arkansas oil stone which refuses to work properly after several years of constant use. My tools slide over it being sharpened. How can I make it cut? A. Soak the stone in turpentine or naphtha for a few days, when it will cut as new.

(12) C. H. S. asks (1) how to make a ill clean up the barrel. Then coat with par- | strong joint with gine, A. Use new gine, and in apply ng glue. 2. How to make a good hard oil finish. A. Take of linseed oil 1 pint, rectified spirits 4 ounces, oil of turpentine 36 pint, powdered resin 136 ounces, rose pink 36 ounce; mix. 8. A good cheap wood filler? A. Boiled lineeed oil 1 quart, turpentine 3 quarts, corn starch 5 pounds, japan 1 quart, calcined magnesia 2 ounces; mix thoroughly. You can buy better prepared fillers than you can make.

(18) C. A. D., Virginius, Col., writes: 1 would like to know the relative speed of an air com-pressor in high and low aititudes. Take, for example a Rand drill compressor, running at the rate of 30 revolutions per minute at sea level. Would it have to run faster at this altitude, it being 12,600 feet above sea. level? A. At above elevation the atmosphere is but two-thirds the density of the air at the sea level. Pumps

should run, at a speed of 45 revolutions per m. for the volume of compressed air as computed for the see level.

(14) G. H. W. asks in what way he can make a battery to run a single beil 3½ inches diameter, by using a cast iron box 5½ inches wide, 3½ inches deep, and 17½ inches long. A. Piace a layer of black oxide of copper at the bottom of the iron vessel, fill with strong caustic potash solution, and suspend in it horisontally a good sized sinc, preferably a thick plate 4 inches by 14 inches or thereabo outs in size. Connect one wire to the zinc, the other to the iron.

TO INVENTORS.

An experience of forty years, and the preparation of more than one hundred thousand applications for pa-tents at home and abroad, enable us to understand the iaws and practice on both continents, and to possess un-equaled facilities for procuring patents everywhere. A synopsis of the patent laws of the United States and all foreign countries may be had on application, and persons contempiating the securing of patents, either at home or and, are invited to write to this office for prices, which are low, in accordance with the times and our ex-tensive facilities for conducting the business. Address MUNN & CO., office SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN, SGI Broadway, New York.

INDEX OF INVENTIONS

For which Letters Patent of the United States were Granted

December 13, 1887,

AND EACH BEARING THAT DATE	Electric generator and motor, A. F. Congdon Electric machine, dynamo, G. Westinghouse, J.
AND EACH DESIRED THAT DATE	Electric motor, W. Hochhausen
[See note at end of list about copies of these patents.]	Electric motor or dynamo electric machine, F.
Adjustable chair, E. Pynchon 574/3	Patten
Ammonia from manure, etc., obtaining, W. F.	apparatus for reversing and controlling, W
Nast	Hochhausen
Armature, dynamo, E. N. Bliss 374,73	8 Electrical conductors, conduit for, G. D. Holt
Auger, hotlow, W. Bradford	
Axles, machine for forming wagon, A. Paterson 374,69	Electro medical apparatus, J. S. Muir
Bug. See Mail bag. Baling press, H. Weddle	Elevator. See Coal elevator. Hay elevator. Ho
Barber's chair, T. A. Kochs	elevator. Hydraulic elevator. Straw ele
Battery. See Electric battery. Galvanic bat- tery.	vator. Elevator gate, E. F. Hardin
Bed spring, M. H. Collom 374,686	Elevator trap doors device for operating, A. 6
Bed fastener, machine, H. Bramm	
Binder, tablet, W. B. Pearson 374,751	Engine. See Road engine.
Bit. See Bridle bit. Blotter, ink, L. S. Smith	Engines, compensating gear for road, J. G.
Boat. See Steamboat.	Envelope, safety, L. P. Taylor
Boiler. See Steam boiler. Steam or hot water boiler.	Explosive compound, L. G. Heusschen Extractor. See Nail extractor.
Boilers, purifying water for, C. Elliot 374,838	
Bolt. See Elevating bolt. Book clasp, A. C. Hafely	Fabric. See Knitted fabric. Fans, machine for recording the revolutions of
Boot or shoe stretcher, L. Nottingham	ventilating, Bartl & Nichter
Boots and shoes, seam rubber for, C. H. Carr 374,655	
Box. See Fare box. Miter box. Paper box.	Faucet, beer, J. Deasey
Box, W. H. Butler	Feed water, means for separating oil and sedimen
Boxes, device for closing the lids of, J. Cook 374,384	from, W. E. Pearson
Brake, See Axle brake. Brake, P. Everitt et al	Fence post, H. E. Lambert Fence, wire, D. Woodford
Bridge, T. Buckley 374,987	Fire escape, W. H. Gray et al
Bridge guard, C. C. Tozier	
Broom rack, D. M. Kilmer	Fire extinguisher for car heaters, E. Maguire
Brooms, manufacture of whisk, E. I. Milier 374,500 Brush and blacking box, combined blacking, G.	Frame. See Display frame. Embroidery frame.
W. Peck 371,596	Picture frame.
Buckle, breeching, T. S. Very	Fruit drier, C. A. Pitkin, Sr
Burnishing machine, R. B. Allen 374,865	Funnel, F. A. Lyman
Bustle, A. C. & O. J. Decker	Fuse, electric, K. J. Sundstrom
Bustle, T. P. Taylor 874,642	Galvanic battery, J. A. Barrett
Button making, collet or shell die for, W. Hornich	Galvanic battery, J. Freeman Galvanic battery, J. Serson
Button or stud, G. W. Prentice 374,626	Game counter, E. Meise
Cable gripping mechanism, A. D. Whitton 374,767 Cable track road and tightener for some, C. Carr 374,866	Garment supporter, C. F. Sullivan
Calk sharpening machine, G. W. Savage 374,811	Gas fireplace, T. T. McNish
Calks, machine for making toe, J. C. Kelly	Gas regulator and cut-off, Dally & Richardson Gate. See Elevator gate. Sliding gate. Swinging
Canned food, apparatus for preparing, H. L. Hop-	gate.
per	Gate, G. H. Ingersoll
Cant hook, C. Nygaard 374,377, 374,878	Globe, folding school, J. H. French
Car boister, H. James	Glove fastener, G. W. Mandrill
Car brake and starter, H. H. Olcott	Grading machine, road, J. Moore
Car coupling, Dilier & White	Grain binder, A. Goodyear
Car coupling, F. Tiedt, Sr	Guard. See Bridge guard. Keyhole guard. Rail-
Car coupling, J. Tocin	way crossing guard. Rein guard. Gun, magazine, M. E. Gregg
Car, dumping, J. W. Davis 374,568	Gutters and pavements, fastening device for, I.
Car heater, M. Wanner	L. Landie
Car, railway, C. C. Holt	Hame, F. Church
Car, stock, G. D. Burton	Hame and hame tug attachment, F. Lagerief Hame hitch and collar fender, combined, D. Pat-
Cars, apparatus for heating railway, L. K. Cur-	terson
lett	Hammer tool, revolving electric, W. G. A. Bon-will
Carrier. See Cash carrier.	Hammock stretcher, M. Campbell
Cart, road, B. S. & C. W. Porter	Harrow disks, device for sharpening, H. Dick
Cash carrier, W. H. Koehler	Harvesters, folding platform for grain, S. F.
Cash register and indicator, D. Davis	Voorhees
Chair. See Adjustable chair. Barber's chair.	Hat rack, R. E. Glesson
Convertible chair. Chopper. See Cotton chopper.	Hat sweats, finishing the attaching edges of, F. L. Butler
Chuck, B. F. Chappell	Hay elevator and stacker, P. F. Fleming
Chuck, L. D. Jones	Hay rake and tedder, combined, Landis & Iske
Churn, R. H. Browning 374,774	Heater. See Car heater.
Churn, W. W. Perkins	Heel trimming machine, A. D. Elliott
Clasp. See Book clasp. Clasp, F. W. Tobey	Hinge, P. Forg
Cleaner. See Cloth cleaner.	Hod elevator, H. A. Hali
Cloth cleaner, W. C. Meyer	holder.
71,34	Hook. See Cant hook.

	[DECEMBER 31, 1887.
or	Coal elevator, T. G. Goodfellow
108	Coffse pot, W. A. Krag
n	
er,	Core catcher and breaker, A. Ball 274.819
ek III	Dodge & Weaver 374.991
it	Walters 574 815
ct	Cotton, machine for opening and preparing, R.
=	Kitson
	Crate, Mason & Shafer
of B-	Crate, fruit, J. H. Marvil
10	Dental dask, W. S. Curtin
A	Digger, See Potato digger. Display frame, W. A. Aiken
10	Distilling wood, A. Smith. S74,536
6,	Ditching machine, C. Michelsen
16 [Door hanger, sliding, R. M. Wilson. 374,839 Draught equalizer, J. J. H. Parrott. 374,620
	Drier. See Fruit drier. Drill channeling machine, A. Ball
3	Egg beater and mixer, combined, L. Rosenkranz. 374,706 Egg crates, material for, O. L. Parmenter 574,849
	Electric battery, J. A. Barrett
	lenberger
	Electric coupling device, P. Lange
	Aron
	Electric machine, dynamo, G. Westinghouse, Jr., et al 374,858
	Electric motor, W. Hochhausen
8	Patten
8	apparatus for reversing and controlling, W. Hochhausen
1 8	Electric motors, regulation of, W. Stanley, Jr 374,310 Electrical conductors, conduit for, G. D. Holt 874,792
8	Electro mechanical movement, H. Van Hoeven- bergh
6	Electro medical apparatus, J. S. Muir
0	Elevator. See Coal elevator. Hay elevator. Hod elevator. Hydraulic elevator. Straw ele-
	vator. Elevator gate, E. F. Hardin
	Elevator trap doors device for operating, A. G. Page
	Engine. See Road engine. Engines, compensating gear for road, J. G.
	Downie
	Explosive compound, L. G. Heusschen
	Fabric. See Knitted fabric.
	Fans, machine for recording the revolutions of ventilating, Bartl & Nichter
	Faucet, G. W. Aldrich
Т	Faucet, beer, J. Deasey. 374,781 Fare box, change making, Safely & Williams. 374,551
	Feed water, means for separating oil and sediment from, W. E. Pearson
1	Fence post, H. E. Lambert
	Fire escape, W. H. Gray et al
	Fire extinguisher, automatic, Swallow & Keeny 374,312 Fire extinguisher for car heaters, E. Maguire 374,745
1	Fishing reel, A. Geils
1	Picture frame. Fruit drier, C. A. Pitkin, Sr
1	Fuel, artificial, J. I. Irving
1	Fuse, electric, K. J. Sundstrom
16	Galvanic battery, J. A. Barrett
1	Jaivanic battery, J. Serson \$74,631 Jame counter, E. Meise 574,906 Jarment supporter, C. F. Sullivan 374,715
16	Jas alarm buroer, J. McDermott
1	Jas regulator and cut-off, Dally & Richardson 874,779 Late. See Elevator gate. Sliding gate. Swinging
	gate, G. H. Ingersoll
16	lenerator. See Electric generator. Blobe, folding school, J. H. French
6	Hove fastener, G. W. Mandrill
6	Irading machine, road, J. Moore
6	rater, fruit or vegetable, W. Marx
	way crossing guard. Rein guard. lun, magazine, M. E. Gregg
	utters and pavements, fastening device for, I. L. Landis
E	Iaiter trimming, D. B. Harvey 374,832 Iame, F. Church 374,657
E	Iame and hame tug attachment, F. Lagerlef 374,841 Iame hitch and collar fender, combined, D. Pat-
H	terson
	will 374,580 iammock stretcher, M. Campbell \$74,776
H	langer. See Door hanger. larrow disks, device for sharpening, H. Dick 374,782
	Voorhees
H	arvesting machine, J. Knoop
	at sweats, finishing the attaching edges of, F. L. Butler
H	ay elevator and stacker, P. F. Fleming
H	ead rest, E. W. Robinson
H	eel trimming machine, A. D. Elliott
H	od elevator, H. A. Hall
-	holder.

DECEMBER 31, 1887.]	
Hook or hanger, R. Gorton (r)	10,886
Horseshoe, A. L. Stavens	174,911 174,727
Hydraulic elevator, J. S. McDonald	74,901
Indicator. See Temperature indicator.	74.881
Iron, purifying, J. Beasley	74,651
Keyhole guard, A. J. Urlin	74.678
Knitted fabric, L. Bywater	74,886
Lamp globes, testing electric, C. F. Reinmann	74,850
Lead, manufacture of white, W. P. Talbot	14,116
mutation lock. Seal lock.	74,784
Locomotive grate, C. Knaggs	74,839
Loom picker, J. A. French	74,893
Lubricator, P. Brownley	74,729
Mail bag, H. F. Gaines	74,790
Mail bag, F. P. Moss 3	74.845
Mail bag fastener, I. L. Morris. Mail bag fastener and tag holder, combined, H.	4,903
N. Ockford	4,649
Mantel, sheet metal, W. J. Turl	4,718
McDaniel	
Meat preserving implement, E. Hollenbeck 3 Metallic wheel, W. P. Bettendorf	4,600
Mill stock feeder, C. F. Kendall	4,682
Miter box, E. L. Gaylord 87	4,868
Mortising machines, laying-out attachment for,	4,765
H. M. Bullis	4,730
Motor. See Electric motor. Mower, lawn, E. G. Passmore	
Mower, lawn, E. G. Passmore	1,808 1,616
Nail cutting machine, G. W. Packer	L807 1
Numbering machine, consecutive, J. H. Reinhardt	1
Orange grader, J. W. Keeney 37	L680 V
Organ, reed, E. S. Votey	,722 V
Oven door, J. R. Conrad	,796 V
Packing, rod, F. Pinch	.687
Paper box, R. P. Brown 374 Paper, box for tollet, C. H. Dans 374 Paper webs, means for folding, C. Potter, Jr 374	,886 V
Paper webs, means for folding, C. Potter, Jr 374 Pegging jack, N. Kinney	,699 V
Perforator, F. P. Rosback. 374 Permutation lock, J. C. Smith. 374	,880 V
	641 V
kins 574	,645 V
Pin. See Safety pin. Planing machine, metal, Sellers & Bancroft 334	908
Plant support and protector, J. Rovane	,906 ,658
Planter, potato, J. Riley	
Plow, W. A. Fretwell	889 B
Plug or wedge, quarrying, M. & J. Bentley 374 Post. See Fence post.	574 C
Potato digger, D. Levarn	-
Printing designs on paper to be applied to earthen-	C
ware, etc., machine for, WH. Turner 374, Printing machine, rotary gripper platen, A. God-	H
Printing presses, numbering head for, J. G.	P
Sauer	708 W
Prospecting or boring tube, A. Ball	817
Pump, rotary, C. H. Cary	731
Rack. See Broom rack. Hat rack. Railway, cable, P. M. Bruner	
Railway rails and bearing for such joints, fish	B
plate joint for, W. Lepsky	733
Railway switch, M. Dudley	-
Razor, safety, S. A. Aloe	100
Reel, F. Eltapeno	104
Regulator. See Gas regulator. Rein guard, J. H. Tibbetts	Ge
Rest for invalids, supporting, B. F. Nicholas. 374, Road engine, R. M. Downie. 374,	104
Rocking chair spring attachment, A. B. Stevens. 374, Rolling bars for angle iron, J. M. Baker. 374,	54
Routing machine, V. & J. Royle, Jr \$74,	07 310
Safety pin, E. Huoneker	93 M
Sash holder, M. V. B. Euans	101
Saw sharpening and gumming machine, G. P. Saltenberer	58 Oy
Saw tooth, reversible, R. J. Bole	21
Scale, railway weighing, H. Estabrook	65
Seal lock, C. S. Gilman. 374,5 Secondary batteries, automatic circuit closer for,	92
W. W. Griscom	73 Sa So
Sewing machine buttonhole attachment, A. W.	50
Johnson	144
Williams	78
Shoe nail, F. Flad	90
Shoe, seamless, G. Apsiey. 374,5 Show case for wall paper, etc., sample, J. H. Davis. 374,5	
Shutter worker and fastener, comt.ned, F. B. Mallory. 374,6	Br Br
Signals on railways, device for a sting, J. J.	gra
Turner. 374,9 Signals, switches, etc., device for a unting, J. J. Turner	
Turner	26 Inv
Sliding gate, J. J. Albright	884
B. Floyd	6 Kul

	<i>C</i>	
9	Reference de la companya de la compa	
1	Spinning frames, cop building mechanism for	
ř	ring, A. Balt	
Ł	Stand. See Sewing machine stand. Wash stand.	
8	Stave machine, Ruggs & Gleason E4.630	į
	Stemm Doller, N. Matz 924 and	r
l	Steam or hot water boiler, J. McKinlay 374,615	
	Steamboat, river, G. L. J. Simpson	
9	Stereotype pintes, clamp for securing, W. Filmer. 374,067	
8	Stove, air heating, M. C. Green	
6	Stove pipe thimble, C. H. Tryon	
0	Stove plate fastening, B. D. Ferris. 374 696	
9	Stove sheif, J. A. Price	
,	Straw elevator, I. W. Adams	ı
		l
i	Suspension of cable road switch, C. Care. 924 864	
)	Suspension or cable roads, track for, C. Carr 374,865	
	Swinging gate, adjustable, W. R. Thomas 224 sag	l
	Switch. See Railway switch. Suspension or cable	ı
	road switch.	ı
	Switch board test circuit, multiple, C. E. Scrib- ner	ı
1	Switches, detector bar or safety lock for, J. J.	1
Í	Turner 374,915	ı
	Tag for money bags, etc., A. A. Sprague 374.812	l
1	Tag, jeweler's, E. S. Burbank 374,823	ı
ı	Tap hole closer, T. A. Taylor	ı
1	Temperature indicator, electric, J. C. Boyle 374,581	l
I	Tether, R. B. Adams	l
I		
1	Thill coupling, P. E. Shirk	
ı	Thread cutting die and holder, J. S. Henry 374,599	
I	Tile for coping, Robbins & Bell	
ı	Tongue support, G. A. Brice	
l	Tool, combination, J. L. Koonts. 374,602 Tooth, artificial, S. T. Beale, Jr 374,572	l
ı	Trap. See Mole trap.	ı
l	Tube. See Prospecting or boring tube.	ı
ı	Tubes and rods, rolls for reducing and tapering,	ı
1	M. L. Ritchie	ı
ı	Valve, gate, W. S. Payne	
ı	Valve gear, G. M. Pelton	
ı	Valve, safety, A. C. Meady 374,617	
ı	Valve, safety, A. Orme 374,750	
ı	Valve, slow closing tank, S. G. Smith 874,687	
ı,	Vaporizer, J. H. Valentine	
ŀ	Vehicle, two-wheeled, R. R. Jones	
	Wagon bed, M. Mills 374,876	
1	Wagon, convertible stock. W. E. George 374.501	
ľ	Wash stand, H. E. Braunfeld 374,822	
1	Watch, stem winding, S. C. Smith 374,760	
	Water gauge, T. G. Lovegrove 374,006	
	Waterproof, composition for rendering leather, cloth, etc., C. E. Haynes	
1	Wheel. See Metallic wheel.	
1	Wheel, W. P. Bettendorf 374.576	
1	Whip socket, F. E. Benton 374,771	
1	Windmill, H. Myers 374,904	
1	Window, jail, D. McDonald 374,800	J
1	Wire splicer, W. F. Batters	
1	Wire stretcher, Flynn & Kilhurn 24 668	
1	Wire stretcher, Flynn & Kilburn	1
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	Carpet, W. McCallum	17,946
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	Costume, lady's, E. Moran	17,948
1	Costume, lady's, J. Sheils	17.949
ĺ	Dress, girl's, E. L. Jenkins	17,942
ĺ	Horse blankets, fabric for, G. R. Ayres	17,938
	Organ case, E. S. Votey	17,952
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ages of, T. Symington	
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Medicated soap, pills, ointments, salves, and der	
tal preparations, Ichthyol Gesellschaft Corde	8.
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stomach, and bowels, tonics, bitters, coug	h
sirup, liniments, pills, and pile ointment, A	
Cable	. 15.014
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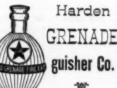


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ambulance blovele T	Fireplace protector 116 Fireproof suit. 354 Fish killer, the 100 Fismes musical 157 Float, water gauge 19 Floor cramp, hayer s. 88 Floor flock 5	Rocker, Chair 40 Rocker, Trevelyan's 40 Rope ladder, French's 88 Ribbon holder 194 Rice mill 18	Artesian well engineering	Cars, heating	Drainage, sanitary
Anchor, for poets	Whome packers Conant's 115	M	Ash sifter, Falordeau's	Carbon, graphitic	Drill for valve work
		Sash holder, Hambitser's 887 Saw filer, Sherman's 179 Saw filing attachment 146	Awning Pennington's	Carpet and weather strip 44 Carpet moths 838 Carpet stretcher, Martin's 4371	Dynamite gun Dynamite gun, iarge shell for Dynamite gun, trial. Dynamite gun. Zaliuski's
Ax. Maloney's	Fumigator Longhey's	Science, American Association., 95	Ax, Maloney's	Carriages, care of	Dynamite gun Zalinski's Dynamite in shells Dynamo, pyromaynetic Dysentery, treatment of
В	Furniture attachment	Court, venicio, a ous a.c.		Cart, dump, Frogner's	Dysentery, treatment of
Baird, Spencer F		Sewing machine cover	Bucilius of scarlet fever	Cataract operations	Earth, curvature of
Barrel machines 88 Barometer, self-registering 618 Battery, plunge simple 116	Gate, Holton's 403 Gate, railroad Carey's 391 Gate, railway crossing 128	Shaft coupling, Stuart's	Ballooning, high	Cattle, Holstein	Earthquake, Charleston Echidna Bruija's
Beetling machine	Gauge, axie	Ship of war Terrible	Ballot box, New Jersey	Cellular structure, fixing	Eclipse, lunar Eclipse of Aug. 19. Eclipse, solar, Aug. 19. Eclipse, total, of sun Education, industrial
Bellows, camera 310 Bellows, camera 310 Selt books, Talcott's 286 Beits, rubber, large 135 Biogule ambulance 23 Rirds at Berlin 353 Bit for horses 123	Gearr, reversing, for engages. He Gearring, Liung's. 115 Geese, Madagascar. 361 Glass, engraving, process. 169 Governor, speed, Dien's. 115 Grain elevator, McLennan's. 322	Ships of war, new	leannce, magnetio, Folison's 181 Ballotoning, high 181 Ballotoning, recent 38 Ballot box, New Jersey 1826 Banana Hquor 114 Banks, experts for 29 Bar, rocking 400 Barker, George F 293 Barcuneter, garden 115 Burrel machines 288 Barometer, self-registering 418 Base ball curve 388	Cement from slag	Education, industrial Egg carrier, new. Eggs, raw, do not eat. Egg shells, to write upon
Bioycle ambulance	Grain elevator, McLennan's 322 Grenade, fire 84 Gun carriago, posumatio 111	nake lisard 32 Speed governor, Dien's 115 Speed indicator, Rung's 39 Spider, a Valuisian 37 Spoons, silver filled 116 Spoons of the flow packets 115	Barrel machines. '386 Barometer, self-registering. '418 Base ball curve. 65 Baths, photo. treatment. 225	Cement, sinc	Electric copying process
Roller explosion, remarkable 20	Gun, large, manufacture. 5 Gun, vaccum. Von Guericke's. 335 Guns, Hotchkias 812 Guns, magnaine, drill with 31	Spoons, allver filled	Baths, photo treatment 25 Baths, pine needle 279 Battery, piunge, simple *116 Battery, secondary, new 284, 37 Battery, single fiuld 300	Chemical substitution 212 Chemicals, exhibit of 170	Electric cars Electric copying process Electric decomp of water Electric headlight Electric lamps, arc, power
Boiler flue plug		Statue of Colombus		Chains, iron, without webla. 214 Chandeller, Bekrian. 217 Chandler, Frox. C. F. 28 Chandler, Frox. C. F. 28 Chemical, exhibit of 120 Chewreal exhibit of 120 Chewreal at 101 years 28 Chicago, cruiner. 190 Chicago, trial of 60 Chicago, trial	Electric light convention Electric light convention Electric light, effects on books
Boiler for steam heating. Boiler, steam. Bige z. 48 Bolt, door, Cladek's. 403 Bolt lock, pinton head. 98 Book holder, Drake's. 147 Brane hit new.	Hamilton Hall	Steam engine, auto, cut off	Ratteries, electro-motor	Chimneys, lightning rods for 70 Chinnes, the heathen 344 Cholern and cold weather 349	Electric light, excess on books Electric light, fishingly Electric light, fishingly Electric light in telemetry Electric lighting trains Electric lighting trains Electric meter, Forbes Electric meter, Forbes
Book holder, Drake's	Hay rake and tedder, combined, 424	Steamship, raising a	Beet sugar at two cts. a pound 35 Beetles that kill trees 249	Cholers in New York	Electric lighthouse lamp Electric meter, Forbes'
Brake, car. Smith's	Heat, reflection of 409 Heater for giant powder 571 Heel former, Jones 403	Stove, car, attachment	Beet sugar at two ces. Bounds are Beetles that kill trees. 229 Beetling machine. 336 Hell cord coupling. 1279 Beil for Cologne cathedral. 113 Beillows, camera. 3316	Churn Deighton's	Electric phosphoresence Electric power service Electric railway, Detroit
Brake, vehicle	Heige, improved 887 Hook, Hat simple 146 Hook, wardrobe, new 115 Horse collar, Boleska's 131	Stovepine joint	Belt hooks, Taicott's	Cities, largest of world	Electric power service Electric railway, Detroit Electric street railway, Detroit Electric tempering of steel Electric transmission, speed
Buffalo beed, bronse	Horse collar pad	Surgical bandle	Beil for Cotogue camera. 50 Beil books, Talcott's 226 Beit books, Talcott's 226 Beit shifter, Lowe's 226 Beits, rubber, large 115 Benaine, dangers of 126 Bessenner's patents. 2 Bessenner's patents. 3 Bessen	CIOCK, INCCILIONAL	Electric welding apparatus Electric whistle
Bull Diavelo, Jersey 420 Burner, gas, Sheehan's 82 Button, separable 370		Talking machine, Edison's 415 Telephone, Bonta 102	Birch bark products. 211 Bird life, Texas. 244, 325	Clark Alvan, establishment 4]98 Clay, brick 337 Clock, isochronal 237 Clock, isochronal 237 Clothes rack, Weis 230 Clothide 242 Clouds, artificial 86 Const fields, colorado 864 864 Clouds 864 865 Const fields, colorado	Electric whistle Electric wire, death from Electric wire, insulator. Electric wire, danger of. Electric ar brake Electrical car brake Electrical conductors, joints
Calf weaper	Ice making machinery	Talking machine, Edison's 418 Telephone, Bonta 162 Telephone, Bonta 162 Telescopes, how made 191 Testing machine, Emery's 390 Thermometer, medical 20 Thirstle, yacht 1, 167 Tie, railrad, metallic 367 Tie, railrad, metallic 367 Tie, railway 367 Tie, and the selection of the sele	Bicycle, ambu ance	Couling artificial 36 Coal fields, Colorado 304 Coal oil, disinfectant from 273 Coal sifter, Falardeau's 248 Coal tar, colora 67 Coaling at sea 588 Coffee, action on brain 212 Coaling at sea 212 Coaling at sea 213 Coaling at sea 214 Coaling at sea 215	Electrical conductors, joints Electrical fishes Electrical ice cream polson
Camera beliews	lee making machinery	Thistle, yacht 1, 167 Tie, railread, metallic	Birds, slaughter of	Confing at sea	Electrical Sahes. Electrical Sahes. Electrical ice cream poleon. Electrical improvements. Electrical lumns. Electrical lumns. Electrical stratagem. Electrical stratagem of matter.
Camera, simple 25 Cameras, finder for 147 Can, tin, machine 131 Canopy frame 147	Insulator, Ruger's	Tin can machine	Bleaching apparatus	Coins, electrolytic	Electricity a form of matter Electricity, and hail
Can, tin, macdine. 154 Canopy frame 167 Car brake, electrical 132 Car brake, Smth's 67 Car coupling, But's 388 Car coupling, Byrne's 325 Carcoupling, Byrne's 325	Ironing board	Tool, combination	Bleaching rags	College of Physicians and Surg. 245 Color, green lake	Electricity and light
Car coupling. Foster's	Jack door	Tongs, pipe	Allocaades. 64 Blot upon our statue books. 129 Blower, hot air. 9162 Boa, capture of, in a sewer. 287	College of l'hysicians and Surg. 245 Colors, green lake. His Colors, complementary. 380 Colors for brass. 170 Colors from cost tar. 670	Electricity and fahi Electricity and light. Electricity as motive power Electricity, atmospheric. Electricity, death by. Electricity from feel Electricity, heating by Electricity, progress in
Car coupling, Musiar's	Jack, floor 5 Jacket. measuring, Weir's 131 Jib hank, Jameson's 432	Trunk handle, Doty's	Board, leather	Colors, poisonous. 200 Columbus, statue of 297 Comet Finlay. 81 Comet, great southern. 181	Electricity, welding by
Oar coupling, Self 9. 4 Oar dumping, Davis Gar heater, Cuthbort's 40 Gar heater, Tylor's 50 Car moters, direct, Weiss. 36	Kingfisher, racquet tailed 41	Twine holder. Porter's 183	Boa. capture of, in a sewer 237	Columbus, statue of 987 Comet Finlay 881 Comet, great southern 181 Comet, Olbers-Brooks 9181 Comet, Olbers-Brooks 182 Commet, olbers-Feurn of 182 Commerce, State regulation of 84 Compass, beam 85 Compass, new 85 Compass, recording 95 Concrete forts 187 Congress, medical, internation 187 Constitutional, centennial of 187 Constitutional, centennial of 187	Electricity, progress in. Electricity, welding by. Electro-motor batteries. Electrolytic iniaid work. Elephant, death of an Elephant, shocking as. Elevator beit, large. Elevator, catch for. Elevator, grain, McLennan's.
Car, safety, Gilbilan's, 114	L. Vahandara Wastan's 207	Vehicle body support	Bodies, dead, preserving	Compass, new 512 Compass, recording 555	Elevator, grain, McLennan's Embankments, slopes for
Carpet stretcher, Manter's 371 Carpet sweeper, McCiain's 19	Ladder, rope, French B	Violin tuning peg	Boiler fue plug	Congress, medical, internation'l. 192 Constitutional, centennial of 308 Consumption, corsets	Employers liability. Emulsion, Sresniewski's. Ename: for prints. Energy and perseverance
Cart, dump, Frogner's 402	Langley, S. P	W	Boiler, steam	Consumption treatment	Engineers, good material for Engineering marine, progress. Engraving with mercury Engineers, Brotherhood
Casting, bestead, Dutche, a con- casting, bestead, Dutche 13 Centreboard for boats 166 Chandier, Fraz C. F. 59 Chicago, war ship. 175 Churn, Bockler 4 Churn, Deightton's 180 Cistern, Allen's 114	Latch, deor, Bason's	War ship Chicago 175 War ship Orando 118 War ships, new 319 War ship Terrible 32 War vessels, transportation 402 Wardrobe book 105 Washing machine 66	Boilers, oil-burning	Cooker and scalder	Engineers, Civil, Society Engineers, locomotive
Chicago, war ship	Letter file		Book Rodger, Drinke B. 1447 Book rest, Smalls 1935 Book rest, Smalls 1935 Book and shoes army 386 Boots and shoes army 386 Boots and shoes army 486 Boots packing, machinery 1936 Bracket, scaffold 1936 Bracket, scaffold 1936 Bracket 1936 Bracket 1937 Brake 297 Brake	Copper objects, to color	Enlarging apparatus Envelope machinery wanted
CIAPR. AIVAN G	Lissajous figures	Washing machine, rock. 50 Watches, safety attachment. 330 Water gauge float 19 Wear plate for vehicles. 66	Boxes, packing, machinery. 217 Boxes, packing, machinery. 216 Brace, bit 416	Copper wire, fusing	Escutcheon, Patterson's Etching on giaes Etching transfers, sinc
Clark, George B. 199 Clark, George B. 199 Clock, Isochronal 327 Cloth measurer, Brown's 377 Clothes rack, Weis 389	Liquors, ripening of 99 Lizard, anake 152 Lock for piston bolts 98 Locomotive attachment 130 Locomotive, compressed air 323	Weather strip, Allyn's	The state of the s	Copyright case 96 Corks. second hand 66 Corn planter, Athey's 275 Cornell, John B. 312 Cornell, new professor at 85	England and America. Enlarging apparatus. Envelope machinery wanted. Erythrosine plates Escutcheon, Patterson's. Etching or glass. Etching transfers, sine. Etching transfers, sine. Etching transfers, sine. Etching transfers, sine. Exchator, railway. Exchator, railway. Exchator, railway. Exhibition, Amer. Institute.
Coin package, 'astner's		Whale, a tattoned	Brake, car, new	Cornets, new processor at 85 Corsets and consumption 2 Cottage, \$3.500 419 Cotton planter, Magruder's 422 Cotton planter, Magruder's 422 Cotton planter, Redgers' 472 Cotton planter, Feed for 486 Cotton talk cutter 486 Cotton talk cutter 486	Exhibition, Brussels
Comet, Clours-Brook	Lubricator, axie 50 Lubricator, Dupont's 183 Lubricator, Hussey's 82	Yacht, a Singhaless 188 Yacht, Thistie 1, 167	Brake, vehicle	Cotton planter, Rodgers' 4372 Cotton planters, feed for 486 Cotton stalk cutter 486 Counterfelts detec. by photog 212	Exhibition, Brussels. Exhibition at Glasgow. 192, 194, 294, 294, 294, 294, 294, 294, 294, 2
Cooke, Josiah P 377 Cooker and senider 67 Cooperage, mechanical 386	Mammoth, American		Breas, colors for 170 Brass workers' disease 36 Bread, French, how made 311 Bread raiser, Cox's 88 Bread, white, manufacture 117 Brick de 12	Counterfeits detec. by photog 212 Coupling, bell cord	Experiments, scientific
Cotton planter, Magruder's 292 Cotton planter, Hodgers 272	Mammoth, American	MISCELLANY.	Bricks, enameled	Coupling, car, De May's 130 Coupling, car, Foster's 51	Export trade, American Express box, Arnold's Extractors centrifugal, speed of l Eye, transplantation of.
Cotton stalk cutter 365 Country house, remodeled. 419 Coupling, bell cogú. 179 Coupling, car, Butts', 388	Metals, conductivity	Figures preceded by a star (*) refer to illustrated articles.	Bridge, Firth of Forth	Coupling, oar, Self's	20
Coupling, car, Butta 358 Coupling, car, Eyrne's 356 Coupling, car, De May's 139 Coupling, car, Foster's 51	Mill. rice	A	Bridge, suspension, novel	Coupling shaft. Stuart's	Face powder
Coupling, onr. Laird's	N Natl not	Acetyl-acetone derivatives	Bronze, aluminum, for g't guns. 340 Bronze and silver work. 2217 Bronze casting	Couplings, car, new facts. 255 Cover fastening for jars. 970 Cow. short-horned. 981 Cow. short-horned. 982 Crane, all-around. 973 Crane, the crowned. 272 Cramp, floor, Beyer's. 982 Creature we breathe. 169 Creature we breathe. 169 Creature we breathe. 169 Creature we breathe. 169 Creature of the shorted o	Fans, exhaust, for slate dust Farming by gas light Feed for cotton planters
Coupling, oar, Sampson's, 292 Coupling, car. Bell's. 4 Coupling, shaft, Stuart's. 1/8 Cover fastening for jars. 370	Nuisheil cutter	Acid, nitric, fire from	Bronses, stove	Cramp, floor, Beyer's	Fence post
Cow, short-horsed	Objectives, testing	Acid water, spring of 222 Acoustics, light and heat 409 Adulterations, bakery 200 Advertisements, 199 Aerolite hoax. 382	150 150	Cruiser Atlanta	Fever, scarlet, milk and
Cultivator, Sutton's	Ordeneter, Improved	Aerophore the	Butter, srtifichi	Cruiser Chicago	Fibers, test for
Cutter critical stalk	P. Dalas Carrette	Alabandine 49 Alaska as mining region 330 Albuquerque 317	C	Cruisers, new, bids for 137 Crystals, sections, mounting 81 Crystals, butter, mounting 81 Cultivator, duster and digger. 286 Cultivator, Sutton's 416 Cultivator, Tasker's 539	Face powder. Falls. Rhine. utilization. Falls. Rhine. utilization. Falls. Palls. Considered for a considered for content of the fall of th
Dinoceras 57 Disinfecting apparatus 374	Palm. Sargent's 311 Pantograph. Riche's. 4 Paper coloring machine 168 Pattern tracer and cutter 179	Albaquerque	Cacheca, manufacture 201	Cultivator, Sutton's °146 Cultivator, Tasker's 359 Cement, liquid 376 Cutter bar, Comstock's *99	Fitration, Gerson's system
Door plate, McGlinn's	Pegring jack, Domarts'	Alligator threat of	Calf weaner %1 Calico printing, new process. 334 Camera, beliows %10 Camera lucida, to draw with &1	Cutter our. Comstock's 490 Cutter cotton stalk. 256 Cutter cotton stalk. 256 Cutter head. Humphrey's. 243 Cutter grinder, improved 342 Cutter, nutshell. 551 Cutters, speed of 213 Cutters, speed of 323	Fire, Calumet mine
Drill for valve work 307 Dutch belted Lady Aldine 439 Dyeing apparatus 606	Pen ruling 19 Pen ruling 19 Perforator, Kennedy's 22 Perpetual motion 69, 151 Photographic apparatus 25 Photography of contact sufaces 102 Photography displacement 102	Alloy resisting acids 00	Camera, simple	Cutter, nutshell 51 Cutters, sneed of 213 Cuttings, slopes for 260	Fire escape, Opp's
E Edison's wonderful phonograph. 415	Phonograph, first	Alum for bad water	Can machine 131 Canal, Nicaragua 346 Canal, Nicaragua, route 368	Cyclometer, spoke*181	Fire extinguisher, carb. acid as 1
Rgg carrier, new 35 Electric light engines, 85 Electric light on cars. 150 Electric welding 335	Phonograph new. 415 Phonographic record magnified. 422 Photography, film. 428 Pipe, tobacco 68	Aluminum dental plates. 18: Aluminum dental plates. 18: Aluminum desposition of. 18: Aluminum desposition of. 18: Aluminum iron 67: Aluminum steel 18: Ambiance, bicycle 33:	Cameras, inder for. '447 Can machine. '131 Cannal, Nicaraguas, voite. '287 Canal, Nicaraguas, voite. '287 Canal, Vanasma. change in. '846 Canal, Panasma. change in. '846 Canal, Panasma. change in. '846 Canal, Panasma. change in. '846 Canal, Janama. change in. '846 Canal, Jahp, Manchester. '287 Canal, Jahp, Manchester. '287 Canal, Canal, Jahp, Manchester. '846 Cancer, renedy for. '846 Candy making.	Daguerreotypes, copying 273	Fire from ntrie seld Fire greande Fire, how to act at a. Fire in miles, extinguishing Fires, curious Fireplace protector Fireproof paper Fireproof paper Fireproofing solution Fish killer, the Fish, line, preserving Fish, recaling for market, Fish fry, maformation Fish great losses of Fisher, electrical.
Electric light on cars. 159 Electric welding 335 Electric car brake. 139 Electric trom fuel. 127 Elevator bolk, large, 116		Aluminum steel 170 Ambulance, bicycle 93 Amidogen 68 Ammonia in vegetable mould 34	Canal, ship, Manchester 216, 386 Cancer, remedy for 84 Candy making 296	Dairy products, infection from. 32 Diarrhosa, green, of children 22 Dead, apparently, reviving 312 Death by electricity 137	Fireproof paper
Rievacor, grain, McLennan's 126 Elevacor, grain, McLennan's 322 Elevacor, grain, McLennan's 322 Elevacors, casch for 604 Escutologos, Patterson's 19 Exhibition Brunesle		Ammonia in vegetable mould 34 Amyl varnish 84 Analysis of Croton water 197 Analysis of the sir 199 Analysis, spectrum, Kirchhoff & 321		Death by electricity. 137 Dentistry. American, abroad 288 Developer for lantern slides 773 Developer, hydrochinom. 321	Fish, line, preserving
Exhibition Brussels. 306 Experiments, interesting. 306	Pump, Dobson's 131 Pump, filter press 8 Pump rod, Loomis' 4	Analysis, spectrum, Kirchhoff & 321 Anchor for posts	Car brake, new	Developer, pyro 255 Development(of dry plates 3 Diamond, a million dollar 118 Diet of strong men 118, 165	Fishes, electrical
Fan, ventilating 66 Feed for cotton planters. 18 Fence post, new 371 Fiber, manila, separating 374	R	Animals, diseases of	Car coupling, De May's	Dinoceras '57	rishes, poisonous rishing by electric light
	Rack for printing frames	Antenate, rare, burning	Car coupling, Musiar's	Diseases of animals 296	flies as carriers of tubereles
Fifter press pump Fire apparatus, French. 354 Fire department, New York. 68 Fire engine boiler. 44	Railway crossing gate	Analysis, spectrum, Kirchhof & 221 Anchor for posts	Car couplings, K wiedge	Diseases of animals 256 Diseases of animals 256 Disinfectant from coal oil. 273 Disinfecting apparatus. 974 Disinfection. 974 Disinfection. 989 Disinfection of ruits 989 Distillation of fruits 989 Distillation of wood. 289 Do yous. 164 Dog, sense of smell in. 221 Dogs, military. 97 Dogs, military.	Torida, progress in.
Fire engine tender 384	Railway plow 291 Railway switch, Fortig's 291 Railway tie 291	Aphides, multiplication of 101 Aquarium for amateurs ********************************	Car hester, Tyler's	Dog, sense of swell in	lower farming in France 1 lowers, formation of

itary use of ...
exas
se of smell of ...
ip, engines of ...
h. Bason's ...
e. McGlinn's ...
sanitary ...
for process work ...
elation to health ...
rallwe work ...
before meals ...
pperatus ...
gun, trial ...
gun, trial ...
gun, trial ...
gun, trial ...
gyn Zaliuski's ...
in shells
gyromannetic ...
y treatment of ... E property of water endight.

mps, arc, power unfers, sino. 326
Prober . 224
Pubber . 75
Prailway . 75
Amer. Institute-178, 324
Amer. Institute-178, 329
at Giasgow . 102, 194, 254
Millers' and Dakers' . 125
kanteresting . 586
ts, scientific . 400
naphtha . 416
new . 21
te. American . 386
s, Armold's . 225
centrifugal, speed of 107
lantation of . 331 F ting. stillization. ting. set, for state dust. gas light. tton planters. stoves. cure for est, backlins of est, backlins of est, backlins of est, backlins of est, make a separating coing plants for d. spinning (COX's Traphy idea stripping est's prump.

The prump pump tans, French tans of Franch curious of Franch curious attilization of ment, New Yerk. boiler (Opp's 1900) atilization of ment, kew Yerk - 98
boiler - 34
boiler - 34
lisher - 34
lisher

DECEMBER 31,	1887.]	Stientitit	6
Flowers, marriage of. Flowers, to preserve Flowers, Tiley's Food adulterations Food, prehistoric Foot rest, Tiley's Force, supposed new Forces, supposed new Forces, portable Forts, concrete Forts, concrete Forts, oncrete Forts, oncrete Forts, oncrete Forts, in connerce Freight, lake Friction on railways Freight, lake Friction on railways Freight, lake Friction on railways Freight, lake Frietle, layer Frozen ground Frue, California Fuel, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, cutter, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, cutter, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, cutter, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, cutter, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, cutter, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, cutter, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, sunforer daning Fuel, lquid, for inon clads Fuel, cutter, l	Insects, self-mending	Machanics, American	Phot Phot
Fluorine, isolation of	insulator, Ruger's.	Metal work, Helgian	Photo
Food adulterations	20 International Union	Metals, effect of heat on	Phot Phot
Foot rest, Tilley's 1 Force, motive, of the world 3	90 58, 74, 91, 106, 122, 129, 134, 171, 57 196, 204, 219, 235, 250, 266, 288,	Metais in plants	Phot
Force, supposed new	26, 314, 331, 347, 378, 384, 410, 440 66 Inventions, engineering	Meteorology, electric	Photo Phyll Phys
Foster, Orson	171, 186, 202, 219, 285, 250, 296, 298, 298, 814, 281, 247, 378, 394	Micrography, photo	Phys Picks
Freight, lake	17 Inventions increase wages 168	Milk and scarlet fever	Pigeo
Frozen ground	Inventions increase wages	Milk, changes in	Pigeo Piles Piloe
Fruit, California	184, 171, 186, 202, 219, 235, 250,	Mill picks, to temper	Pine
Fuel, liquid, for iron clads	304, 410, 425 13 Invention wanted 176	Mills, cotton, Southern	Pipe,
Fuller's earth, refining 2 Fumigations, suphurous 2	Inventive genius, develop 214	Mines, locomotive for	Pisto Pita.
Furnace and rolling mpl	Inventors, rights of	Mines, tin, of California	Place Plane Plane
Furnace, Siemens	67 Iron, aluminum 67	Minerals of Alaska 33	Plane Plane
Furniture, old, restoring 2 Fuse, cutter, Hale's	lron brick paving stones	Miner's tool°ii	Plane Plane
G	me, me, me, at, me, at	Mirrors, how made	Piani
Garbage crematory, Chicago, &	Iron planing machine	Money package, Arnold's "238 Money paper. sme l of 88	Plant
Gas and salt in Kansas	3 Iron rust, removal of	Monkeys eating oysters 180	Plant Plant
Gas, carb. acid, fire extinguisher it	Iron to color blue	Morphine habit, what it will do 200	Plate.
Gas lamp, regenerative	Ironing machine	Morse, birthplace of 176 Morse, Edward S	Plate. Plate Plate
Gas liquor for grass	Irradition	Mortar attachment	Plate
Gas, natural, in 1897	lvy poisoning	Mosses, optical properties 161 Moth, walnut 2249	Platin Platin Plow,
Gas pressure, 600 lb	J	Moths, Buffalo	Plug, Plum
Gas wells, Canada Gascony, landes and dunes of 21	Jack, floor	Moths, to preserve	Plum
Gas light, farming by	Jack: floor	Motor, Keely	Point
Gate for elevated ratiway	K.	Motors, car, street	Poiso
Gate, railway, crossing	Kerosene, test for 195	Mouthwash, antiseptic 158 Mowing machine attachment *84	Pole, Polyn
Gauge, axle Gear, reversing, for engines*11	Keyhole guide	Museum, British	Posts. Posts. Posts
Geese, Madagascar	Kerosene, test for 195	Nail set*163	Potat
Germanium	Kirchhoff, Gustav R	Natiling machine 101, 180, 296, 360	Powe
Glass, compressibility	Knowledge, definiteness in 288	Naval dangers, English 181 Naval maneuvers, British 160 Naval progress Spanish	Power Power
Glass, engraving	T ₄		Power
Glass, platinizing	Labels, affixing to tin	Navigation, steam, Atlantic 382 Navigation, steam, progress 389	Printi Printi
Glass, to cut with scissors Glove fastener, Genry's 21	1 Labor, does it produce wealth? 53	Navy, our new *36, *180, *324, 421 Navy, our slow 269	Prints Prints
Glue, moisture-proof	Laboratory, Edison's, new 184	Navy, secretary, report. 371 Negatives, illuminating 371 Negatives, retouching 321	Prizes
Gold on Alaska island 1	Ladder, rope, French's*83 Lake Zug, slide at	Niagara Falls water power 844 Nichols, Prof. E. L 85	Projec
Go'd, to melt	Lamp, for Christmas tree*404 Lamp, gas, regenerative 354	Nickel coloring	Pulve
Grain elevator, McLennan's°32 Grape seeds, oil from	Lamp, highthouse, electric	Nitroglycerine, explosive power, 360 Nitroglycerine in shells	Pump
Gravity, specific, of liquids*16	Lamps, incandescent	Nobody, how to be 258 Nut trees, transplanting 225	Pump
Grenade, fire *8 Grindelia spirosa 40	Langley, S. P	Nail set	Queen
Garbage crematory, Chicago Gardener, a woman Gardener, a woman Gas and sals in Kanasa Gas burner, Sheehan's Gas, carb. acid, fire extinguisher it Gas, earb. acid, fire extinguisher it Gas, earb. acid, fire extinguisher it Gas lamp, regenerative Gas lamp, regenerative Gas lamb, regenerative Gas lamb, regenerative Gas lamural, inistriction Gas, natural, distributing Gas, natural, inistriction Gas, natural, inistriction Gas, natural, inistriction Gas, pressure, 600 lb Gas wells, Canada Gascon, landes and dunes of. Gas light, farming by Gascon, landes and dunes of. Gascon, landes Ga	Labels, affixing to tin	0	Quick
Gum for labels Gunboak Russian, new. 11 Gun cotton, detonating	Launches, steam, light draught*182	Oak, gigantie 49, 165 Objectives, testing 198 Observatory, Harvard 238, 238 Odometer, improved 93 Oil as fuel 337 Oil california and Ohio 29 Oil can holder 291 Oil can holder 291 Oil, hair 148 Oil of peppermint, distillation 36 Oil on water, danger 37 Oil the waves 13 Oranges, Florida 223 Ore jigger, new *622 Orlando, ship of war *18 Oxticok, American 418 Ox bow, Rundell's *99	Dathi
Gun, dynamite 20 Gun, dynamite, large shell for 32	Launches, steam, light draught. *182 Law, a queer	Odometer, improved	Rabbi Race, Race i
Gun, dynamite, trial	Leather board	Oil, California and Ohio 29 Oil can holder 211	Race, Rack ! Raft,
Gun, vacuum. Von Guericke's 30 Guns, great, alumi'm bronze for. 36	Leaves, colored	Oil from grape seeds	Rag b
Guns, Hotchkiss'	Letter file, King's	Oil of peppermint, distination 350 Oil on water, danger	Railro
Guns, modern	Letters, enameled 90 Lenses, ice 164	Oranges, Florida	Railro Railro
Gymnastics at school	Level and rule, combined 1867	Orlando, ship of war	Railro Railro
H III	Letter handedness, significance. 200 Letter le, King s. 24 Letters, enameled 90 Light and solution binned 90 Light and electricity 90 Light and electricity 90 Light and electricity 90 Light and sound, reflection 90 Light and cound, reflection 90 Light into electric energy 168 Light into electric energy 168 Light interiole 90 Light interiole 90 Light interiole 90 Light interiole 90 Lighting, politic energy 168 Lighting, cultions 91 Lighting, cultions 91 Lighting, politic 91 Lighting, politic 91 Lighting, politic 91 Lighting, politic 91 Lighting 90 Lighting 40 Lighting 90 Light	Ox bow, Rundell's	Railro
Hair cil	Light, are, odor of	Pacer, teaching to trot. 215 Pad for horse collars *61 Padis, wood pnip. 177 Paint for kitchen floors. 49 Paint, old, removal 276 Paint, old, removal 276 Paint, old, removal 276 Paint, gon sement. 342 Palm, fan, Chinese. 201 Palm, Barrenia. 61 Pantograph, Riche's. 44 Papor, for and water proof. 344 Papor noiring machine. 163 Papor, fire and water proof. 344 Papor money, ameli of. 88 Papor prints, bromide, blench's, 165 Papor, uses of 37 Parcel post. 164 Paradidekyde in Insomnia. 41 Parate, floor, preserving. 273 Paste, mounting. 273 Paste, mounting. 173 Patent Commissioner, report. 179 Patent diverse vol. 176 Patent diverse vol. 177 Patents, innocents. 410 Patents, innocents. 410 Patent, furnace, decision. 217 Patent, furnace, decision. 217 Patent, furnace, decision. 217 Patent, furnace, decision. 217 Patents, innocents. 410 Patents innocents. 410 Patents innocents. 411 Patent, provisional, English. 165 Patent, what it should mean. 200 Patents as monopolies. 41 Patents as monopolies. 41 Patents as monopolies. 41 Patents as monopolies. 41	Railwa Railwa
Harbor improvement	Light, into electric energy 168 Light, intrinsic	Pad for horse collars	Railwa Railwa Railwa
Hat book simple	Lightning and railw. signals 213	Paint for kitchen floors	Railwa
Hay fever cure	Lightning conductors 386 Lightning, curious effects 181	Painting on rement 342 Palm, fan, Chinese 200	Railwa
Head, a hard	Lightning, photographs of, 3, 99 Lightning, powder ignited by 64	Pantograph, Riche's	Railwa Railwa Railwa
Heat into electricity 3	Lightning rod for chimneys 70 Lightning rods	Paper coloring machine	Railwa
Heat of sun	Lightning rods, Tyndali en lib Lightning statistics	Paper money, smell of	Railwa Railwa Rainbo
Heater for giant powder	Lighthouse lamp, electric 90	Paper, uses of	Rainfa
Hektograph new	Lime, sulphate, phosphorescence 117 Liquid fuel	Paraidekyde in insomnia 41 Paste, flour, preserving	Refrig
Hide worm Hides, boracic acid for	Liquids, densities of	Patent, Bell telephone	Reins, Relay. Remed
Hobby, value of	Liquor traffic, regulation 66	Patent discussion, interesting 417 Patent, driven well	Repeat
Hop louse problem	Liquor, consumption of 66 Liquors, ripening of	Patent extensions, revival 113 Patent, furnace, decision 217	Respir Retrie
Hook, wardrobe, new*115 Hook, hat, simple*146	Lizard, snake	Patent law, Swiss	Rice m
Horse bit, Manning's*171	Lock, seal	Patent, what it should mean, 200 Patents as monopolies 41	Ribbon Rifle, I
Horse collar pad*51 Horse in spectacles	Locomotive attachment 130 Locomotive cah 875	Patents as monopolies	Rifles, Rings, River i
Horse, kicking, to cure 23 Horse killed by electric wire 8	Locomotive cab 575 Locomotive, compressed air. 523 Locomotive engineers. 316, 292 Locomotive mining. 181	Patents, folly of decrying 181 Patents, new commissioner 200	Roadb
Horses, attend to your	Locomotive wheels, adhesion 218 Longevity, philosophy of 129	Patents, stability of	Rock b
Horses, spectacles for 401 House, old, Yucatan	Louse, hop	Pear tree, saving a	Rocker Rocker Rollers
House, remodeled	Lubricator, axie	Peppermint crop	Hollers
Hydrochinon developer 331	Lucigen, the 248 Lumber measure 228	Perforator. Kennedy's	Roofs, Root b Rope la
Heat measurer, new Heat Heat measurer, new Heat of nun. 3 Heat of nun. 3 Heat reflection 4 Heat of nun. 3 Heat reflection 4 Heat of part powder 4 Heating by electricity Hittele 1 Heat of nun process 4 Hitle worm 5 Hitles, boracle neid for 5 Hitles, boracle neid for 5 Hitles, boracle neid for 6 Hobby, value of 6 Honey in Tasmania 15 Hop louse 7 Hop louse 7 Horse hitles 1 Hook wardrobe, new 11 Hook wardrobe, new 11 Hook wardrobe, new 11 Horse olling 1 Horse olling 1 Horse olling 1 Horse olling 1 Horse little 1 Horse olling 1 Horse hitles 1 Horse hitle	Lumber measure, flands'	Perfumes, two new	Ropes, Rubber Rubber
I	Loeomotive engineers	Patents, folly of decrying. Patents, folly of decrying. Patents, new commissioner. 200 Patents, stability of. Patents, stability of. Pear tree, saving a. 444 Pegging jack, Dorwart's. 325 Peppermint oil, distillation. 385 Perforntor. Kennedy's. Perfume, lily of the valley. 48 Perfume manufacture, France. 196 Perfume, two new. 298 Perpetual motion. 408 151 Perpetual motion, inventors. 77 Perseverance, important factor, 85 Petroleum, exhaustion of. 20	Rubies Rust, r
lee cream poison, electric	M	Peneverance, important factor, Sec Petroleum, exhaustion of: 22 Petroleum in Italy 361 Petroleum, solidification. 374 Petroleum, solidification. 374 Petroleum well, remarkable. 384 Philosophy, Christian Institute, 148 Phonograph, first. 422 Phonograph, first. 422 Phonograph, improved. 373 Phonograph in court. 422 Phonograph in court. 422 Phonograph in court. 427 Phosphorescence, electric. 117 Photo-mechanical process. 385 Photo plates for colored objects, 186 Photo by Photo micrography 41 Photographers' association. 115 Photographers' association. 116 Photographers' association. 116 Photographers' association. 117 Photographers' association. 117	
Ice lenses Lee making machinery88	Machine serew trust	Petroleum, solidincation 374 Petroleum well, remarkable 324 Philosophy Christian Institute 149	Saddle, Salt an
idea, a good	Magnesia for vines	Phonograph, Edison's new 273 Phonograph, first 422	Salt in
Incandescent bodies, light from 300	Magnetic bridge	Phonograph, improved	Salt, ro Salt, ro Salt ve
India rubber, cement for 181 Indians, wealthy	Magnets, action on liquids 246 Magnetine rifles 240	Phosphores of sulph of lime	Sang Di
Industrial Union, access, of U.S. 16	Malabar, ship	Photo-mechanical process 385 Photo micrography	Sap. ase Sash ho Saturn
Infautry, German 65 Injector, illustration of	Man, composition of	Photo thermography 41	Saw file Saw file Saw file
Ink formulæ 377	Manila fiber, reparating	Photographic apparatus	Saw fili Scaffold Sciatics
Ink, stencii	Manuring cannot be overdone 349 Marble, destruction by snow 96		Science
Insane, books for	Marble, effect of snow on 165	Photographs, fuding of 104	Science

7	62	
	Photographs, mountant for	1
70	Photographs, mountant for 18 Photography film	
565	Photography of projectiles 3	8
8	Photography, vest button	5
5 5	Physics, value to mechanics 37 Physique, American	4
110	Picks, mill, tempering	
8	Pigeons, homing, flight of 40 Piles, Leclanche	6
6 8 8	Piles, Leclanche 29 Pilocarpine, synthesis of 19 Pine needle baths 27 Pineer: military, hastening. 27 Pipe, tobacco 26	9 9
8	Pipe, tobacco Pipe tongs. 97 Pistol, toy, deadly 22	6 9
ì	Pita 1	5
	Places, easy. 2 Planets, positions in August. 6 Planets, positions in December, 35 Planets, positions in November, 27 Planets, positions in October. 20 Planets, positions in September, 12	4
0	Planets, positions in November, 27 Planets, positions in October 20 Planets, positions in September, 12	8
	Planets, position in January 418 Planing machine, iron*34	8
	Plant vs. sweet taste	
-	Plants, metals in	
	Planting, roudside	7
	Plates, dry, development	
	Plated ware manufacture. *116 Platinizing glass 56 Platinum, radiations from 347 Plow, rallway 799 Plug, boiler flue. *356	1.3
	Plow, railway 230 Plug, bolier flue 330 Plumbing leakages 18 Plums, preserving 28	
	Flungers, mechanism for	
	Points, heating of	
	Polar regions, balloon view	
	Post, fence	
	Potato digger, Collins'*310	U.
	Potato planter eloquence 181 Powder ignited by lightning 64 Power, distribution of	
	Power in the future 296	
	Power, windmill	
	Printing on wood	
-	Printing, blue, method	
	Prints, waxing	
	Pulveriser for seeders*194 Pump, Pobson's*131	1
	Pump, filter press	
	Pyromagnetic dynamo	
	Queen Victoria, steamer 87	-
1	R	
-	Rabbits in Australia	
-	Race, yacnt, mternational 05	
	Raft, lumber, great	
	Rallwood cars heating (W)	1
	Railroad cars, heating	
-	Railroad, first in America	and the same and the same and
-	Beiliond men a banding	and the same and t
	Railroad, Mexican Nutional	
No.	Railroad, Mexican Nutional	
	Railroad, Mexican Nutional	THE REAL PROPERTY AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY AND
	Railroad, Mexican Nutional	All the real real real real real real real rea
The state of the s	Railroad, Nextenn National	the first fight can give man and the can death and the can are an
NAME OF TAXABLE PARTY O	Railroad, Nextenn National	P. F. And And Company of the Part of the Company of
	Railroad, brancon National. Railroad on Mt. Pilatins. Saliroad on Mt. Pilatins. Saliroad on Mt. Pilatins. Saliroad spip. Rada'. Railroad signal, Vinton's. Saliroad signal, Vinton's. Saliroad signal, Vinton's. Saliroad cordent, singular. Saliway crossing gate of 118. Railway, casende. Italiway, electric. Detroit. Italiway prosessing gate of 129. Railway pholee. Crewe. Saliway pholee. Crewe. Railway pholee. Crewe. Saliway plow Railway phow Railway switch. Ferig's. Saliway gand blast. Hallway switch. Saliway switch. Saliway switch. Saliway saliway ties. Saliway saliway ties. Saliway saliway ties. Saliway Railway ties. Saliway Railway ties. Saliway Railway ties. Saliway Railway Railway Railway Saliway. Railway Railway Railway.	THE PART OF THE WAY FOR FIRST AND THE PART OF THE PART
AND THE RESERVE THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE PERSON NAMED IN COLUMN TWO IS NAMED IN COLUMN T	Railroad, brancon National Statistics of the Railroad on Mt. Pilatus 456 Railroad on Mt. Pilatus 456 Railroad on Mt. Pilatus 456 Railroad dignal, Vinton's 828 Railroad dignal, Vinton's 828 Railroad tie, metallici 987 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, electric, Detroit 129, 257 Railway, electric, Detroit 129, 257 Railway, propopoles 928 Railway punopoles 929 Railway punopoles 929 Railway pand blass 118 Railway pand blass 118 Railway pwitch 929 Railway pwitch 929 Railway witch 929 Railway ties 930 Railway witch 929 Railway ties 930 Railway ties 150 Railway ties 930 Railway ties 150 Railway kitch 929 Railway ties 150 Railway t	THE PERSON NAMED OF THE PERSON NAMED IN THE PE
	lanivos de les auxilional. 82 Auxilional 182 Auxili	The property of the last of th
	Railroad, breasen National. Railroad on Mt. Pilatins. Saliroad on Mt. Pilatins. Saliroad on Mt. Pilatins. Saliroad sipp. Rada'. Railroad sipnal. Vinton's. Saliroad signal. Vinton's. Saliroad signal. Vinton's. Saliroad condent, singular. Saliway crossing gate of 178. Railway, casende. Italiway, electric. Detroit. Italiway, electric. Detroit. Italiway jubile. Railway plow. Italiway jubile. Railway plow. Saliway plow. Sali	
	Railroad, breaten National 88 Railroad on Mt. Pilatus 45 Railroad on Mt. Pilatus 45 Railroad on Mt. Pilatus 45 Railroad digmal. Vinton 8 88 Railroad tie, metallic 88 Railroad tie, metallic 88 Railroad tie, metallic 88 Railroad tie, metallic 88 Railway cosedent 17 Railway, cascade 17 Railway, cleetric, Detroit 17 Railway, elevated, gate for 91 Railway publice, Crewe 97 Railway monopolice 28 Railway, Northern Pacific 10 Railway pand plass 20 Railway sand plass 20 Railway sand plass 20 Railway tie, 82 Railway tie, 82 Railway tie, 82 Railway tie, 83 Railway trains, English 38 Railway, Riction on 18 Raincow, tunar 68 Raincar, Fell's 97 Regata, Royal Yacht Cub. 95 Reins, trown 56 Reins, trown 56 Reins, trown 56 Reins, trown 57 Respecter, new 90 Repeater, new 91 Respiration, artificial 42 Respiration, artificial 48 Retriever a noble 46	
	ikaliroad, bicason National Railroad on Mt. Pilatus. Saliroad on Mt. Pilatus. Saliroad on Mt. Pilatus. Saliroad spip. Bada'. Bailroad sipal. Vinton's. Saliroad signal. Vinton's. Saliroad tie, metallic. Saliroad ti	TO TO TO THE TOWN THE TAX TOWN THE CONTRACT FOR THE TOWN THE TOWN THE CONTRACT CONTR
	Railroad, breasen National Statistics of the Railroad on Mt. Pilatus (Statistics) and the Railroad of Mt. Pilatus (Statistics) and the Railroad signal, Vinton's (Statistics) and the Railroad signal, Vinton's (Statistics) and Railroad statistics (Statistics) and Railroad statistics (Statistics) and Railroad (Railroad (Rai	10 FD of FD
	ikalivad bies en National 88 kaliroad om Mt. Pilatus 45 kaliroad om Mt. Pilatus 45 kaliroad om Mt. Pilatus 45 kaliroad sipa, Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal 68 kaliroad signal 68 kaliroad signal 68 kaliroad	DESCRIPTOR AS INDIVIDUAL TO THE PROPERTY OF TH
	ikalivad bies en National 88 kaliroad om Mt. Pilatus 45 kaliroad om Mt. Pilatus 45 kaliroad om Mt. Pilatus 45 kaliroad sipa, Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad signal 68 kaliroad signal 68 kaliroad signal 68 kaliroad	100 Ray for 100 for 10
	Railwad bies en National Stational S	CE C
	ikaliroad kira sur National Statistical Action of Mt. Pilatistica Statistical	
	ikaliroad kira sur National Statistical Action of Mt. Pilatistica Statistical	8
	ikaliroad bies en Niconal 88 kaliroad om Mt. Pilatus 48 kaliroad digmal. Vinton's 88 kaliroad digmal. Vinton's 89 kaliroad digmal. Vinton'	8
	ikaliroad, bica en National Stational Stationa	TTTTTT
	ikaliroad, bica en National Stational Stationa	TTT
	ikaliroad, bica en National Stational Stationa	SSS TTTTTTTTTTTT
	ikaliroad, bica en National Stational Stationa	TTTTTTTTTTTTTTT
	ikaliroad kira see National Schallroad of Mt. Pilatus Saliroad of Mt. Pilatus Saliroad of Mt. Pilatus Saliroad ship. Bads' 400 Railroad signal. Vinton's 453 Railroad tie, metallio 554 Railroad tie, metallio 555 Railroad tie, metallio 555 Railroad tie, metallio 555 Railroad tie, metallio 555 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, pilatus problem 555 Railway piblies. Crewe 218 Railway piblies. Crewe 218 Railway piblies. Crewe 218 Railway piblies. Crewe 218 Railway piblies. 100 Railway pand blass. 1114 Railway switch. Ferig's 201 Railway switch, Ferig's 201 Railway switch, Ferig's 201 Railway ties. English 368 Railway, Eng	TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT
	ikaliroad kira see National Schallroad of Mt. Pilatus Saliroad of Mt. Pilatus Saliroad of Mt. Pilatus Saliroad ship. Bads' 400 Railroad signal. Vinton's 453 Railroad tie, metallio 554 Railroad tie, metallio 555 Railroad tie, metallio 555 Railroad tie, metallio 555 Railroad tie, metallio 555 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, cascade 218 Railway, pilatus problem 555 Railway piblies. Crewe 218 Railway piblies. Crewe 218 Railway piblies. Crewe 218 Railway piblies. Crewe 218 Railway piblies. 100 Railway pand blass. 1114 Railway switch. Ferig's 201 Railway switch, Ferig's 201 Railway switch, Ferig's 201 Railway ties. English 368 Railway, Eng	TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT
CO POSTO DO CONTROL POR PROPERTOR POR POR POR POR POR POR POR POR POR P	istantowal as as National Stational Action of the Action of the Price of the Action of	TTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT

rew driver, Troy's	Ther Thin
rew industry, Heriin	Thin This
a tolephone	Thre
ats, school, Pedersen's	Ties
	0 Ties
lenium. sun's rays on* if-control	Time
wing machine device *3	4 Tin
ark fishing	3 Tin
arks, encounter with	8 Tond
ell, large, for dynamite gun Si ells, hitroglycerine Si ingle, metallic	6 Tobe
ingle, metallic	Tom
ip of war Chicago	Tom Tom
ip of war Terrible	
	Tool
fp, steam, raising a	Top.
ip, treasure, aunkes. 30 ip Unebi 'kan 3 ips, iron, preservation 3 ips of war, Chinese 3 ips of war, week and slow 3 ips of war, week and slow 3	Torp
ips of war, Chinese	Toys
on polish, liquid	Trad
and the second second the second	Trair
naling apparatus94	Tram Tram
k, artificial	Traps
ver spots, removal	Trees
on in marine signaling, use is	Trees
ag, automatic	
te dust, exhaust fans for	Trutl
g, cement from 4 te dust, exhaust fams for 4 te, uses of 1 ep. to promote 4 de at Lake Zug 36 mes for enhankments 39	
pos tor omenuments	Tunn
ils, strength of	Turpe
kes e imbing trees	Type Type
akes, self mending197, 277 essing	
ering	Unda
p, recovery from water	Uneb
ps, tollets, in noters	
, Japan	Vacus
otra, star	Valve Varni
	Vehic
ed governor, Dien's 115 ed Indicator, Rung's 230 der, a Malasian 97 der, red, destruction 300 der, the nesting 345 ders, moulting of 100	Vener
der, red, destruction 200	Verm
	Vesse
nning, ring	Vines.
nning, ring	Vise e
out for flour packers*115 ings, tempering	Volcar
ings, tempering	
nd, convertible	Wafer
r of Bethlehem	Wage Wage Wage
tue of Columbus	Walni Walni War s
am boiler, Birge's *** am engine, auto, cut off **24	War a War a War a
am engines of the Dogali	War s
am heating, boiler for*194	War a
am navigation, Atlantic 283 am navigation, progress	
avn nine for heating	War s War v Ward
am trap, Motley's *82	War v Ward Wash Wash
am trap, Motley's	War v Wash Wash Wash Wasp Watel
am trap, Motiey's	War v Ward Wash Wash Wasp Watel Watel
am trap. Motiey's. 223 mirap. Motiey's. 223 mer, passenger, fastest. 25 miship, relating a. 25 miship, fast, two. 57 el. a. 25	War v Ward Wash Wash Wate Wate Wate
ann trop, Motley's. ***********************************	War v Ward Wash Wash Wash Watci Watci Watci Watei Watei Watei Watei
mm trap, Motley's "92 mmer Deston 217 mer, passenger, fastest. "57 maship, fast, two 57 ming fast, two 57 ming fast, two 24 el, a new 24 el, a tumnum 23 el, electric tempering 97 el, to free from rust. 243 el, to free from rust. 243 el, to, to from solid fods. 213 el tabes from solid fods. 31	War v Ward Wash Wash Watc Watc Watc Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate
am trap, Moticy's amer Boston	War v Ward Wash Wash Watc Watc Water
ings, tempering. 366 inkler in theaters. 148, 184 ircase, grand ind, convertible. 381 ind, convertible. 382 ind, convertible. 382 ind, convertible. 383 in	War v Ward Wash Wash Wate: Wat
am trap, Moticy's amer Baston 2021 amer, passenger, fastest 57 amer, passenger, fastest 57 amer, passenger, fastest 57 aming, fast, two 57 aming, fast 51 aluminum 52 aming, fast 54 aluminum 52 aming, to free from solid rods 51 aluminum 52 aming, fast 53 aming, fast 54 aming, fast 55 aming, f	War v Ward Wash Wash Water Wat
am trap, Moticy's amer Bayes, and trap, Moticy's amer Boston	War v Ward Wash Wash Wash Water Wate
am trap, Moticy's amer Bayes, and trap, Moticy's amer Boston	War v Ward Wash Wash Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate
am trap, Moticy's amer Bay Moticy's amer Boston 217 amer, passenger, fastest 57 americ, passenger, fastest 57 amship, fast, two 57 amship, fast, two 57 amships, fast, two 57 amships, fast, two 57 aming, fast 51 el, a new 245 el, atumnum 235 el, atumnum 245 el, atumnum 245 el, atumnum 245 el, to free from rust 245 el, to free from solid rodes 37 el tabes from solid ro	War v Ward Wash Wash Wash Watc Watc Watc Watc Watc Watc Watc Watc
am trap, Moticy's and trap, Moticy's amer Boston 271 amer, passenger, fastest 57 americ, passenger, fastest 57 amship, fast, two 57 amship, fast, two 57 amship, fast, two 57 amship, fast, two 57 aming, fast, two 51 all, aluminum 245 el, aluminum 245 el, aluminum 245 el, atorium solid rode 37 el tabes from solid rode 37 el tabes	War v Ward Wand Wand Wand Wase Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wat
am trap, Moticy's and trap, Moticy's amer Boston 217 amer, passenger, fastest 57 amering, fast, two 57 amsnipe, fast, two 57 amsnipe, fast, two 57 amsnipe, fast, two 57 amsnipe, fast, two 57 aming, fast 51 el. a new 246 el. atuminum 246 el. atuminum 246 el. atuminum 246 el. atuminum 246 el. to free from roist 246 el. to free from solid rodes 247 el tabes from solid rodes 248 el tab	War v Wand Wand Wand Wand Watce Watce Watce Watee Wate
am trap, Moticy's are large, Moticy's are large. Moticy and trap and trap are large. The large are large are large are large. The large are large are large are large. The large are la	war y Ward Wash Wash Wash Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate
am trap, Moticy's and trap, Moticy's americal marker of the manufacture of the manufactur	war v Ward Wash Wash Wash Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate
am trap, Moticy's and trap, Moticy's americal maner Boston	war y War y Wash Wash Wash Wash Wash Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate Wate
gg, insect, treatment. 105 ules ules 106, building destruction of 97 noes, building destruction of 97 noes, paving, iron brick. 319 noes, building destruction of 97 noes, paving, iron brick. 319 re blacking 110s. 199 re blacking 110s. 199 re feeder. Bring's '5 re, ear, attachment. 27 re, fers burning '163 res, how put up. 245 res, how put up. 245 res, how put up. 245 res, low put up. 345 res, how put up. 345 res, to work and a 367 rest car motors. 343 rest car motors. 343 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 374 rest, at two cents a pound 305 reston, practical 418 ide of sorpions. 101 heat of 56 spot, the great of June. 145 total cellope of 51	Water Water Water Water Water Water Wave Wave Wave Water West West West West West West West West
gg, insect, treatment. 105 ules ules 106, building destruction of 97 noes, building destruction of 97 noes, paving, iron brick. 319 noes, building destruction of 97 noes, paving, iron brick. 319 re blacking 110s. 199 re blacking 110s. 199 re feeder. Bring's '5 re, ear, attachment. 27 re, fers burning '163 res, how put up. 245 res, how put up. 245 res, how put up. 245 res, low put up. 345 res, how put up. 345 res, to work and a 367 rest car motors. 343 rest car motors. 343 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 374 rest, at two cents a pound 305 reston, practical 418 ide of sorpions. 101 heat of 56 spot, the great of June. 145 total cellope of 51	Water Water Water Water Water Water Wave Wave Wave Water West West West West West West West West
gg, insect, treatment. 105 ules ules 106, building destruction of 97 noes, building destruction of 97 noes, paving, iron brick. 319 noes, building destruction of 97 noes, paving, iron brick. 319 re blacking 110s. 199 re blacking 110s. 199 re feeder. Bring's '5 re, ear, attachment. 27 re, fers burning '163 res, how put up. 245 res, how put up. 245 res, how put up. 245 res, low put up. 345 res, how put up. 345 res, to work and a 367 rest car motors. 343 rest car motors. 343 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 373 rest car motors. 374 rest, at two cents a pound 305 reston, practical 418 ide of sorpions. 101 heat of 56 spot, the great of June. 145 total cellope of 51	Water Water Water Water Water Water Wave Wave Wave Water West West West West West West West West
R. Crusked, streament	Water Water Water Water Water Water Wave Wave Wave Water West West West West West West West West
a. coroned struction of a general segment of the se	Water Water Water Water Water Water Wave Wave Wear Wear West West West West West West West West
a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. b. colding.	Water Water Water Water Water Water Wave Wave Water West West West West West West West West
a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. b. colding.	Water Water Water Water Water Water Wave Wave West West West West West West West Wes
a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. b. colding.	Water West West West West West Was
a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. b. colding.	Waiter Water Weiling
a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. b. colding.	Water Water Water Water Water Water Water Water West West West West West West West West
a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. a. coronard, strengthenes. b. colding.	Waiter Water Weiling
a, coroacu, at construction of a construction of	Waite Water Water Water Water Water Water Water Waser Waser Waser Waser Waser Water
a, coroacu, at construction of a construction of	Waite Water Water Water Water Water Water Water Waser Waser Waser Waser Waser Water
a, coroacu, at construction of a construction of	Waite Water
a, coroacu, at construction of a construction of	Water
R. Ortoscu, x. Coroscu, R. Ortoscu, R. O	Water

. 161 .*430 17		
.4490	Scorpions, suicide of	Thermometer tubes, water in 117
	Sorpions, suicide of	Thermometer tubes, water in, 117 Thermometers, metallic 145 Think, it pays to 22 Tainking, advantage of 25 Tainking, advantage of 26 Tainking, advantage of 26 Threads of gines, etc 24 The railroad, metallic 36 Tile, railway 30 Toffnoy, Uharles Is 38 Tiles, stove 186 Tilaber supply, our future 36 Tine, unit of new 36 Tine, unit of new 36 Tine, unit of new 36 Tine, control of 36 Tine, control 36 Tine, control of
. 99	See, Behring, do we own ! 38	Thinking, advantage of
. 34	Sea to ephone	Threads of glass, etc 245
r, 342	Seal lock 21 Seals, gray 27 Seats, gray 27 Seats, school. Pederson's 27 Seats, whiche, Yous 11 Seeds, vitaity of 18 Sedenium, sun's rays on 28 Seif-scontrol. 66 Sewer system, Boston 50 Sewer system,	Tie, railway *307
308	Seat, school, Pedersen's*19 Soat, vehicle, Yous'*11	Tiffany, Charles L. 968
. 194	Seeds, vitality of	Tiles, stove
. 8	Self-control	Time, unit of new
104	Sewing machine cover*130	Tin can machine
401	Sewing machine device	Tin mines of California 368
. 168	Shark fishing	Tin plate process, new 234
273	Sheep, South American	Tondstools, poisonous
*179	Shell, large, for dynamite gun	Toaster, Downey's*370
227	Shingle, metallic21	Toboggan slide, Peeling's95
. 25	Ship Malabar	Tomatoes from cuttings 391
. 276	Ship of war Chicago 180	Tomb, Jay Gould's
352	Ship of war Terrible *Z	Tombetone pictures
272	Ship of war Trafalgar	Tongs, Mannes'
. 129	Ship railroad, Eads' 40	Tool, combination.,
. 416	Ship transit, isthmian 160	Tools, fine, tempering
. 360	Ship, freasure. sunken 30	Top, scientific°121
. 345 . 177	Ships, iron. preservation 38	Torpedo boat practice*988
101	Ships of war, Chinese	Tower, Eiffel
. 336 . *210	Shoe heel former	Trade, export, American 898
. 337	Shower, mercurial*400	Trafelgar, war ship*250
. 193	Sidon discoveries 100	Train dispatchers
*116	Signal, railroad, Vinton's 4223	Trammel, Helron's *84
. 56	Silk, artificial 416	Transfers, sinc etching 336
*291	Silver and bronze work	Traps, keep them flied
.*355	Silver, volcanic	Trees, deciduous, to plant 357
290 290	Siren in marine signaling, use le	Trees, transplanting
. 196	Sketching board, Small's	Trunk corner, Garcia's270
. 366 256	Siate dust, exhaust fans for	Trunk handle, Doty's
. 61 244	Slate, uses of	Tubercies, root
. 200	Sewing machine cover "Esewing machine device." Sewing machine device. Shark fishing. Sharks, encounter with. Shels, hirroglycerine. Shele, hirroglycerine. Shells, hirroglycerine. Shells, hirroglycerine. Shells, hirroglycerine. Shells, hirroglycerine. Ship of war Chington. Ship of war Chington. Ship of war Orlando. Ship of war Undaunted. Ship of war Undaunted. Ship reasure. Ship of war Undaunted. Ship transit, istimian. Ship transit, istimian. Ship tronsure. Ship of war, weak and slow. Ships of war, weak and slow. Ship of war, Chinese. Shop held of ormer and slow. Shop held or war. Shop held or war. Ship of war, weak and slow. Ship and an and ship was ship war. Ship and ship was ship was ship was ship war. Ship and ship was	Tuning peg, violin 81
*971	Slopes for enbankments 200 Smell, sense of, delicacy 130 Smoke of cannons, dissipating 170 Snalls, strength of 107 Snake, joint 183	Tunnel, big Bend
*870	Smoke of cannons, dissipating., 170	Turkey, brush
*310	Snake, joint	Twine holder, Porter's*168
181	Snakes, how they climb trees 85	Type writer, what it is doing 26
290 276	Snakes, self mending	U
290	Snow, effect on marble 165	Tillos, stove. Tillos, stove. Tillos, stove. Tillos, sull of new. Tollos, sull of new. Tomb. Sull of new. Tomb. Sull of new. Tomb. Sull of new. Tollos, sull of new. Trade, export, American. Tog. Trade, export, American. Tog. Trade, sull of new. Tramanel, Helron's. Tollos, sull of new. Tramanel, Helron's. Tores, transplanting. Solution. Trees, native or foreign! Trees, native or foreign! Trees, native or foreign! Trees, native or foreign! Trees, native or foreign. Transplanting. Solution. Trunk polid. Transplanting. Solution. Trunk polid. Trunk pol
857	Soape, resin in	Undaunted. war ship
246	Boda engine 245	Unit of time, new
41	Shakes Self monding 19, 24	v
257 165	Spectacles for horses	Vacuum gun, Von Guericke's **28 Valve gear, improved **37 Varnish, smy! **87 Varnish, smy! **84 Vebiele body sapport **37 Vehicle sear, Vous! **116 Vencer, to secure **116 Vencer, to secure **116 Venus and Jupiter, approach **38 Vermin exterminator **382 Vensel, ciyote buit **383 Viese equalizer **383 Volcano, valnet in Connecticut **383 Volcano, valnet in **383 Volcano, val
*38	Soy, Sapan. Speciacles for horses. 49 Speciars, star. Spectrum analysis, Kirch hoff and. Spectronopy, star. Spectrum analysis, Kirch hoff and. Spectrum analysis, Kirch hoff appear analysis, Spectrum anal	Valve seats, drill for
72 24	Spectrom analysis, Kirchhoff	Varnish, amyl 84
*243	and	Vehicle seat, Yous'*iib
*131	Speed indicator, Rung's*339	Venus and Jupiter, approach 368
*8	Spider, a Malaisian	Vermin exterminator 4822
241	Spider, the nesting	Vessel, Clyde built
200	Spike, driving under water 343	Vine securing device°163
	Spoon holder, Hanington's*274	Vines, magnesia for
87	Sponges, to bleach	Vise equalizer, Stoan's
	Spout for flour packers	Volcano of Kinchi *829
	Sprinkler in theaters 148, 184	Volunteer, yacht 199, *9/7
408 70	Spoules a besch. 168 Spoul for four packers. 118 Springs, tempering. 36 Sprinkier in theaters. 183 Sprinkier in theaters. 183 Staring botanical preparations. 183 Standa of otanical preparations. 183 Standa convertible. 30 Star gazors, items for. 183 Star gazors, items for. 183 Star pactors, items for. 183 Star pactors of Bethlehem. 183 Star pactors of Columbias. 203 Star pactors of Bethlehem. 183 Steam engine, narine. 203 Steam engine, narine. 203 Steam engine, auto, cut off. 24 Steam engine, of 1809. 21 Steam engine of 1809. 21 Steam heating, boiler for, 21 Steam navigation, Atlantic 22 Steam navigation, Atlantic 22 Steam navigation, Atlantic 22 Steam rap, Motley's. 22 Steam rap, Motley's. 22 Steam rap, Motley's. 22 Steaminp, Fast, two. 27 Steaminp, Fast, two. 27 Steaminp, Fast, two. 27 Steaminp, fast, two. 27 Steaminp, fast. 23 Steel, a new 23 Steel, a new 23 Steel, a new 23 Steel, of free from rust. 24 Stendi ink, fast. 32 Steel, to free from rust. 34 Steel, too, to anneal 24 Stendi ink, fast. 32 Steel, of the free from rust. 34 Steel, too, to anneal 23 Steel tabes from solid rods 31 Steel t	Wafers, manufacture
*277	Stand, convertible	Wafers, manufacture 261
*50	Star of Bethlehem	Wages, do inventions increaser. he Wages in 1900
24	Statue of Columbus	Wagon brake, Platner's249
213	Steam boiler *18	Walnuts for turkeys 277
*891	Steam engine, auto, cut off *24	War ship Orlando*118
115	Steam engines of the Dogali*	War ship Terrible*22
*55	Steam engine of 1809	War ship Undaunted 114
400	Steam launches, light draught*183	War ships, weak and slow 852
*898 *897	Steam navigation, Atlantic 283 Steam navigation, progress 280	Wardrobe hook, Fanning's 115
369 213	Steam pipe for heating 200	Washing machine *16
178	Steamer Boston 237	Wasp, a wise
178 187 178 97	Steamship, raising a	Watch camera
197	Steamsnips, fast, two	Watches, safety attach 239
296 i00	Steel, a new 216	Water, bad, slum for
114	Steel, electric tempering	Water, Croton analysis
275	Steel, to free from rust 243	Water gauge float*19
907	Steel tubes from solid rods 81	Water power, Ningara Falls 844
300	Stenography, fast	Waterspouts, motion
161	Stick crooked straightened	Water supply, diminution of 260
81	Stings, insect, treatment 105	Water tower, portable 150
130	Stones, building destruction of. 97	Water wheel, Millot's
*6	Stones, paving, iron brick 313 Stool, folding	Waters, return of the
164 105	Stove blacking	Waves, oil the 188
19	Stove, car. attachment*291	Wear plate for vehicles
297	Stove, straw burning	Weather reporters, pigeon 106
21	Stoves, how put up 245	Welding apparatus, electric 398
11 13 45	Stovepipe joint	Welding by alectricity
11 405 405 138	Street car motors	Welding by electricity
21 405 405 *18 200 194	Stovepipe joint	Welding by electricity. 170 Welding, electric. 377 Well, a deep. 377 Well, artesian, Dakota 306
11 405 *18 209 194 825 219	Stovepipe joint	Weiding by electricity
11 58 405 *18 209 194 525 200 81	Stovepipe joint 937 Street car motors 94, 274 Street car propulsion 94, 274 Street, illuminating by smoke 97 Stud, separable 970 Sugar beet, at two cents a pound 25 Suggestion, practical 48 Suickle of accordant	Welding by electricity. 170 Welding, electric. 985 Well, a deep. 377 Well, artesian, Dakota 306 Well, artesian, Galveston 131 Well, bolling, new 301 Well, driven, case 405
11 405 *18 209 194 525 200 81 277 806	Stovepipe joint 937 Street arr motors 94, 933 Street car propulsion 92, 974 Street, all huminating yamoke 97 Sind, separable 97 Sindle 97 Sin	Welding by electricity
21 465 *18 200 194 825 200 81 277 856 21	Stovepipe joint 937 Street on motors 943 Street car propulsion 964, 974 Stoud, separable 975 Stud, separable 975 Stud, separable 197 Stud, separab	Welding by electricity, 170 Welding Lectricity 170 Welding electricity 170 Well, artesian, Dakota. 306 Well, artesian, Galveston 151 Well, boling, new 251 Well, driven, patent 396 Well, driven, patent 398 Well driven 398
21 53 405 *18 209 194 825 200 81 277 826 21 81 404	Stovepipe joint 937 Street car motors 94, 973 Street car propulsion 95, 974 Street, 11 Juninating by smoke 97 Stud, separable 97 Stud, separable 97 Stud, separable 97 Stud, separable 97 Sugar beek, at two cents a pound 97 Sugar beek, at two cents a pound 97 Sugar beek, at we cents 97 Sugar bee	Welding by electricity, 170 Welding by electricity, 90 Well, a deep, 97 Well, artesian, Dakota. 300 Well, artesian, Galveston. 151 Well, driven, east 40 Well, driven, patent. 32 Well, artesian, Dakota. 367 Wells, queep. 377 Wells, deep. 377 Wells, deep. 372
21 53 405 *18 209 194 825 210 81 277 856 *19 404 409	Storegipe joint	Welding by electricity, 170 Welding kelectricit, 982 Well, adeep, 377 Well, artesian, Dakota. 300 Well, artesian, Galveston. 531 Well, driven, case 400 Well, driven, case 400 Well, driven, patent 386 Well, driven, ault. 322 Wells, actesian, Dakota. 367 Whale, a tattooed 4136 What the world owes. 419
21 58 405 *18 200 194 845 210 81 277 886 21 210 409 210 210	Stovepipe joint	Welding by electricity 100 Welding kelectric. 6085 Well, adeep 577 Well, artesian, Dakota 306 Well, artesian, Galveston 131 Well driven, case 405 Well driven, case 405 Well driven, patent 306 Well driven, patent 306 Well driven, patent 308 Well, driven, patent 308 Well, driven, patent 708 Well, artesian, Dakota 307 Wells, actesian, Dakota 307 What the world owes 419 Wheat in America 502 Wheel in America
21 55 405 418 239 194 525 280 211 277 215 210 409 210 210 178 286	Stovepipe joint	Welding by electricity, 170 Welding, electric. 982 Well, a deep. 977 Well, artesian, Dakota. 350 Well, artesian, Dakota. 360 Well, artesian, Dakota. 360 Well, artesian, Dakota. 360 Well, driven, case 450 Well, driven, patent 380 Well engineering, artesian 382 Well engineering, artesian 382 Wells, actesian, Dakota. 367 Wells, deep. 372 Whale, a tattooed. 413 What the world owes. 419 What has the merica. 362 What has a the second 362 What has a second 362 Wh
21 465 *18 239 194 825 210 81 277 856 210 409 210 210 210 210 210 296 *63 290	Stick, crooked, straightened 386 Stings, insect, treatment. 105 Hipules 35 Mones, building destruction of 97 Stones, paving, iron brick 31 Stool, folding. 410 Stool folding. 410 Stool folding. 410 Stove blacking. 410 Stove blacking. 410 Stove blacking. 410 Stove car, attachment. 420 Stove car, attachment. 420 Stove folding. 410 Stove	Welding by electricity, 170 Welding by electricity, 180 Well, a deep, 377 Well, artesian, Dakota. 306 Well, artesian, Galveston. 151 Well, boling, new 456 Well, driven, patent. 386 Well, driven, patent. 382 Well engineering, artesian. 388 Well, driven, patent. 382 Well engineering, artesian. 388 Wells, actesian, Dakota. 367 Wells, deep, 377 Wells, deep, 378 Whale, a tattooed. 415 What the world owes. 419 What has a tattooed. 428 Wheel, hythaulio. 328 Wheel, hythaulio. 348 Whistie, electrici. 388 Whooping cough, cure of 188
21 465 465 465 299 194 465 216 816 216 216 216 216 216 216 216 216 216 2	Storegoppe joint 9307 Street car motors 944, 974 Street car propulsion 94, 974 Streets, Illuminating by smoke 975 Stnd, separable 975 Stnd, separable 975 Stnd, separable 975 Sungar beek, at two cents a pound 98 Sungar beek 97 Switch, railway 97 Switch, railway 97 Switch, railway 97 Switch, railway 97 Talking machine, Edison's 416	Welding by electricity 170 Welding by electricit 170 Welding electricit 170 Well, artesian, Dakota 306 Well, artesian, Galveston 131 Well, driven, case 306 Well, driven, case 308 Well, driven, patent 302 Well driven, patent 302 Well driven, patent 302 Well engineering, artesian 308 Well, artesian, Dakota 307 Wells, deep 377 Wals, deep 377 Whale, a tattooed 318 What the world owes 419 Whest in America 232 Wheel, hytraulio 348 Whistle electric 368 Whoeling ough, our of 168 Wick, incombastible 285 Windmill power 307 Windmillower 307 Well 107 Well 1
21 53 405 405 418 200 51 51 210 51 210 178 200 178 200 210 210 210 275 210 275 210 275 213 200 275 213	Storegipe Joint Street car motors 348	Welding by electricity, 170 Wolding by electricity, 170 Wolding, electricity, 170 Wold, a deep, 377 Well, artesian, Dakota. 300 Well, artesian, Galveston. 131 Well, driven, case 450 Well, driven, patent 380 What in America. 382 Wheel, fifth, cox's 343 Wheel, fifth, cox's 343 Wheel, fifth, cox's 343 Wheel, by drawillo. 386 Wheel, by drawillo. 386 Wheel, hy drawillo. 386 Wick, incombustible. 388 Wick, incombustible. 388 Wick, incombustible. 387 Window shade case. 387 Window shade case. 384 Woman gurdener. 384
11 465 418 409 1194 409 1194 409 1194 409 1194 409 1194 1198 1198 1198 1198 1198 1198 119	Stovepipe joint 9307 Street car motors 944, 974 Street car propulsion 944, 974 Streets, illuminating by smoke 975 Stud, separable 975 Stud, separable 975 Stud, separable 975 Sugar beet, at two cents a pound 975 Surjeat house 975 Sun spot, the great of June 145 Sun total eclipse of 975 Sun spot, the great of June 145 Sun stotal eclipse of 975 Sun spot, the great of June 145 Sun stotal eclipse of 975 Sun spot, the great of June 145 Sun spot, at 115 Surjeat handle 975 Switch, railway Fertig 975 Switch, railway Fertig 975 Switch, railway Fertig 975 Switch, railway Fertig 975 Swordfish, man killed by 975 Talking machine, Edison's 975 Tannin in boiler incrustation 175 Tannin in boiler incrustation 175 Taste, sensitiveness of 975	Welding by electricity, 170 Wolding, electricit, 982 Well, artesian, Dakota, 534 Well, artesian, Dakota, 534 Well, artesian, Dakota, 534 Well, delegan, 534 Well, delegan, 534 Well, delegan, 534 Well, driven, patent 382 Well engineering, artesian, 382 Well engineering, artesian, 383 Wells, actesian, Dakota, 367 Wells, deep, 372 Whate attooed, 913 Whate the world owes, 432 Whate, artificial selectric 384 Wheel, artificial selectric 384 Wheel, artesian, 384 Wheel, artificial selectric 384 Wheel, artificial selectric 384 Whooling cough, cure of 185 Whooling cough, cure of 186 Whooling cough, cure of 186 Whooling cough, cure of 285 Window Made case, 2714 Woman gurdener, 384 Woman gurdener, 384 Woman gurdener, 384
91 465 +18 909 465 +18 909 465 910 194 455 910 194 409 210 178 226 220 275 213 116	Storegolpe joint	Welding by electricity 170 Welding by electricit 170 Well, artesian, Dakota 306 Well, artesian, Galveston 151 Well, artesian, Galveston 151 Well, artesian, Galveston 151 Well, artesian, Salveston 152 Well driven, mass 456 Well, driven, mass 456 Well, driven, suit 322 Well engineering, artesian 383 Well, artesian, Dakota 367 Wells, deep 777 Wells, deep 777 Whale a tattooed 155 What the world owes 159 What the world owes 152 Wheel, harts 154 Wheel, harts 154 Whistic, electric 256 Word 357 Wood, allillation of 358 Wood, dilling 376 Well
\$1 465 +18 989 +18 989 +18 989 +18 989 +19 408 +19 178 68 +19 178 68 +19 178 68 +19 178 68 +19 178 68 +19 178 68 1	Storegoing John Street car motors Street car motors Street car motors Street car motors Street car propulsion	Welding by electricity 170 Welding by electricit 170 Welding electricit 170 Well, adeep 377 Well, artesian, Dakota 306 Well, artesian, Galveston 151 Well, boling, new 206 Well, divisor, patent 398 Well, divisor, patent 398 Well, divisor, patent 398 Well engineering, artesian 285 Well, artesian, Dakota 367 Wells, deep 377 Wells, deep 378 Wells, deep 379 Whate attooed 215 Whate the world owes 419 Whate in America 328 Wheel, hytraulica 318 Wheel, hytraulica 318 Whooping cough cure of 185 Wick, incombastible 328 Windmill power 376 Window shade case 376 Wood, distillation of 388 Wood distillation of 376 Wood, kindling 104 Wood 171 Wells
21 465 419 419 419 419 419 419 419 419 419 419	Storegope joint 9307 Street car motors 944, 977 Streets in Juminating by smoke 975 Streets, Illuminating by smoke 975 Stud, separable 975 Suggestion, practical 415 Sun, boat of 16 Sun, boat of 16 Sun, boat of 16 Sun, boat of 17 Sun, boat of 16 Sun, boat of 17 Sun, boat of 18 Sun, boat	Welding by electricity 10 Welding by electricity 10 Welding electricity 10 Welding electricity 10 Well, artesian, Dakota 306 Well, artesian, Galveston 131 Well, driven, case 306 Well, driven, case 308 Well, driven, patent 302 Well, driven, patent 302 Well, artesian, Dakota 308 Well, artesian, Dakota 308 Well, artesian, Dakota 308 Well, artesian, Dakota 307 Wells, deep 372 Wals, deep 372 Wals, deep 373 What the world owes 419 What has attooed 318 Wheel, hytoraulion 348 Wheel, hytoraulion 348 Whooling cough, oure of 168 Wick, incombastible 286 Windmill power 307 Window shade case 324 Wood distillation of 388 Wood shifts 318 Wood illing 318 Wood, initing 318 Wood, preservation of 131 Wood pills 317 Wood pills 318 Wood pills 318
21 43 45 419 419 419 419 419 419 419 419 419 419	Stovepipe joint 9307 Street car motors 944, 974 Street car propulsion 944, 974 Streets, Illuminating by smoke 975 Stud, separable 975 Sugrestion, practical 415 Sun, spot, the great of June 145 Sun, bat of 985 Sun spot, the great of June 145 Sun, total eclipse of 915 Sun, bat of 985 Sun spot, the great of June 145 Sun, total eclipse of 915 Sun, total eclipse of 915 Sunfowers as fuel 113 Surject 113 Surje	Welding by electricity, 170 Welding by electricity, 180 Well, a deep, 277 Well, a deep, 277 Well, artesian, Dakota
21 48 405 418 406 406 406 406 406 406 406 406 406 406	Storegipe joint 9307 Street car motors 934, 937 Street car motors 944, 937 Street car propulsion 957, 937 Street, 11 Juninating y smoke 97 Stud, separable 957 Stud, s	waters, return of the
21 465 475 475 475 475 475 475 475 475 475 47	Storegoing John Street car motors Street car motors Street car motors Street car motors Street car propulsion	Welding by electricity, 170 Welding by electricity, 170 Well, a deep, 377 Well, a deep, 377 Well, artesian, Dakota. 306 Well, artesian, Bakota. 306 Well, artesian, Galveston. 531 Well, boiling, new 201 Well, deep, 206 Well, driven, patent 208 Well, driven, patent 208 Well, driven, patent 208 Well, artesian, Dakota. 307 Wells, deep, 377 Wells, deep, 377 Whale, a tattooed 215 What the world owes 419 What the world owes 419 Wheel, hfth, (ox*a, 248 Wheel, hfth, (ox*a, 248 Wheel, hfth, (ox*a, 248 Whooping cough, oure of 168 Wick, incombastible, 258 Windmill power 307 Window shade case, 248 Wood, distillation of, 368 Wood, distillation of, 368 Wood, distillation of, 368 Wood, distillation of, 368 Wood, wood, similing, 376 Wood, prevailing, 376 Wood, prevailing, 377 Work and pay Werench, play, Carpin's 179 Writing, stenographic, 378 Writing, stenographic, 378
31 465 478 478 478 478 478 478 478 478 478 478	Storegipe joint 9307 Street car motors 934, 977 Streets, illuminating by smoke 975 Streets, illuminating by smoke 975 Stud, separable 975 Sugrestion, practical 415 Sun spot, the great of June 145 Switch, rallway spring 975 Swi	Y .
31 465 478 478 478 478 478 478 478 478 478 478	Storegipe joint 9307 Street car motors 944, 977 Streets in Juminating by smoke 975 Streets. Juminating by smoke 975 Stud. separable 975 Sugreets 975 Sugreets 975 Sun spot. the great of June 145 Sun, boat of 975 Sun spot. the great of June 145 Surject June 145 Surject 975 Surject 97	Y .
31 458 458 458 458 458 458 458 458 458 458	Storegipe joint 9307 Street car propulsion. 364, 937 Street. 11 Juninating by smoke. 47 Stud. separable. 957 Stud. separable. 957 Stud. separable. 958 Sugar beet, at two cents a pound 568 Sugar beet, at two cents	Y .
31 458 458 458 458 458 458 458 458 458 458	Storegipe joint 9307 Street car motors 936, 937 Street car motors 936, 937 Street car propulsion 957, 937 Street, 11 Juninating by smoke 95 Stad, separable 95 Stad,	Y .
31 465 465 465 465 465 465 465 465 465 465	Storegipe joint 9307 Street car motors 944, 947 Street car motors 944, 947 Street car propulsion 947, 947 Streets, Illuminating by smoke 95 Streets, Illuminating by smoke 95 Stands separable 94 Sugar beek, at two cents a pound 26 Sundout of prest of June 14 Sundout of prest of June 14 Sun total celipse of 65 Sunfowers as fuel 11 Surgery, onthalmic 27 Surgers onthalmic 27 Surgers onthalmic 95 Swrich, rallway Fertig 97 Talking machine, Edison 97 Talking machine, 97 T	Y Yachf, a Singhalese
2275 2275 2275 2275 2213 116 213 116 123 213 123 213 123 213 123 123 124 124 124 127 127 127 127 127 127 127 127 127 127	Talking machine. Edinon's. *416 Tanning agent. new	Y Yacht, a Singhalese
2275 2275 2275 2275 2213 116 213 116 123 213 123 213 123 213 123 123 124 124 124 127 127 127 127 127 127 127 127 127 127	Talking machine. Edison's *416 Tanning agent. new 418 Tannin in boiler incrustation 120 Tariff revision 120 Tea drinkers' disease 97 Telegraph attuation 229 Telegraph attuation 229 Telegraphy. train 229 Telegraphy. train 229 Telegraphy. train 229 Telegraphy. train 229 Telegraphone. Boilet 120 Telegraphone boilet 120 Telegraphone boilet 120 Telegraphone 120 Tel	Y Yachf, a Singhalese

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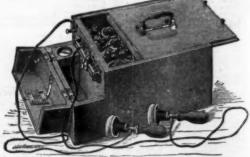
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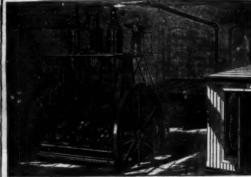


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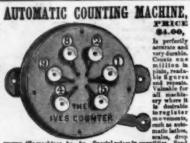
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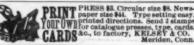
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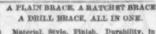
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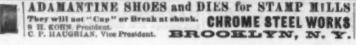
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